UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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WORLD DRY BEAN PROSPECTS a/

Summary

Total production of beans in the United States and 10 foreign countries, according to latest official and unofficial estimates, is 31,318,000 bags, a reduction of 7 per cent from the 33,588,000 bags in those countries in 1931. Many estimates are subject to revision later. Total production of white beans in the United States plus the four Danube countries, which are important surplus producers of white beans, is placed at 18,388,000 bags compared with 19,379,000 bags in 1931 and 15,879,000 bags in 1930. In view of the large Danube crop in 1931 it is probable that carry-over into 1932-33 in that region was somewhat larger than usual although heavy exports appear to have precluded any abnormally heavy carry-over, and the total supply of white beans in the United States and the Danube for 1932-33 is probably not far different from that for 1931-32. White bean production in the United States is 8 per cent less than last year. Without figures on carry-over a year ago no definite comparison can be made of total domestic supplies of white beans this year with last, but the differences in stocks would probably not alter materially the difference shown by production. United States prices of white beans have been falling throughout the season, not only for pea beans, for which production in 1932 was greater than 1931, but also less markedly

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a/ Figures in this report relating to quantities are in terms of 100 pound bags. Statements on foreign beans other than those from official publications of the various countries are based on reports from Agricultural Commissioner O.L. Dawson at Shanghai, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner L. D. Mallory at Marseille, Technical Assistant Drago Cermak of the office of Agricultural Attache at Belgrade, Consuls Alfred W. Donegan at Bucharest, William H. Beach at Antwerp, Vice Consuls Maurice Pasquet at Paris, and P. G. Kemp at Tananarive, Assistant Trade Commissioner O. J. Libert at Santiago, and George Lewis Jones of the office of the Commercial Attache at Cairo.

for great northerns, small whites and marrows for which domestic production estimates are only about half as large as last year or less.

Colored bean production in the United States is 39 per cent less than a year ago, and cranberry production in Japan, an important competitor, is insignificant. There is probably an increase in colored bean production in Italy, usually a surplus producer of some competing colored varieties, but Italian beans are not now competing directly in American markets to any extent. Prices of colored varieties continue low, although they are firmer than white bean prices. Blackeyes are the only class for which prices show any marked increase over those for last year, but pintos and cranberries, and in the West red kidneys also, show some advance over the prices the end of last year. Prices of small reds and pinks are less than those at the end of last year, and in the East red kidneys also are down. Lima prices are low in the face of a decrease in supplies.

There is little direct competition of foreign beans in domestic markets at present. Exports and reexports so far this season have been greater than imports, and there are few quotations of foreign beans duty paid in our markets except Japanese large whites. The foreign beans do compete, however, to the extent of narrowing the market for United States surplus varieties in other countries. The unfavorable economic situation and resulting low level of prices for all commodities are undoubtedly contributing factors of importance in present low bean prices. During the holiday season reduced purchases by wholesalers and retailers prior to inventory taking has been mentioned as an additional temporary cause of slack demand and sagging prices. Reluctance of growers to sell at present prices has been reported, especially in California, and is probably an important cause of the tendency for stocks to pile up in that State.

Supplies

Production of edible beans reported to date in 10 Northern Hemisphere countries and Madagascar totals 31,318,000 bags, a reduction of 7 per cent from the 33,588,000 bags reported for the same countries in 1931, but nearly 13 per cent above average production of 27,784,000 bags in those countries in the generally profitable period of 1924-1928. France, an additional important bean producing and consuming country which is important in the international trade situation, is reported to have a smaller crop than in 1931, but definite figures have not yet been received.

The crop of pea beans, the most important single class of bean produced in the United States, is placed at 4,631,000 bags, 24 per cent greater than the 1931 crop and nearly 22 per cent greater than the 1924-1928 average. There is usually competition among the pea beans and other white beans produced in the United States, and white beans grown in the surplus producing countries of the Danube Basin. Total white bean production in the United States is placed at 6,132,000 bags, nearly 8 per cent less than the 1931 crop, but nearly 17 per cent above the 1924-1928 average. The total of white bean production in the United States plus bean production reported in the Danube, 18,388,000 bags, is 5 per cent below the 19,379,000 bags produced in 1931 but 33 per cent above the 1924-1928 average. While comparable carry-over figures are not available it is reasonable to expect that the white bean carry-over into 1932-33 from the large 1931 crop of the five countries was larger than from the more moderate 1930 crop, and thus that the total supply of white beans for the United States and the Danube for 1932-33 is not far from the supply for the 1931-32 marketing season.

United States production of both great northerns and California small whites is little more than half as large as in 1931 and not far from the 1924-1928 average. Bean production in the four surplus producing Danube countries according to latest indications available is 12,256,000 bags, a slight decrease from the record crop of 12,741,000 bags in those countries in 1931, but 43 per cent above the 1924-1928 average. The Rumanian crop of 7,275,000 bags is a preliminary official estimate compared with 7,284,000 bags last year. Trade estimates generally place the current crop somewhat higher but the estimates are conflicting. Figures for all the Danube countries are subject to considerable revision. Crops of white beans from surplus producing countries include the large and small whites grown in Japan and white beans from Chile. The crop in Japan is less than half of last year's large crop of those varieties. No satisfactory comparison is available for Chile. Italy, which was an important consumer of the Danubian surplus in 1931-32 has an ample crop this season, but reports continue to indicate some shortage in France. That country is increasing takings from the Danube.

Production of colored beans in the United States placed at 2,326,000 bags, is 39 per cent below that of 1931. Production of pintos, the most important single class in the colored group, is only 753,000 bags, 47 per cent below the 1931 harvest and 43 per cent below the 1924-1928 average. For pintos a comparison is available on carry-over in warehouses in Colorado, New Mexico and California, which on September 1, 1932 was placed, according to a survey of the Division of Hay, Feed and Seed, at 267,000 bags compared with about 533,000 bags a year earlier. The total resulting supply of pintos for the 1932-33 marketing season, including stocks of old crop, is 1,020,000 bags compared with 1,944,000 bags a year earlier. It must be borne in mind that the stocks figures do not include stocks at Kansas City and other places outside of the three States named.

Production of pinks, plus California warehouse stocks as of September 1 is 588,000 bags compared with 636,000 bags a year earlier, cranberries 89,000 bags compared with 147,000 bags a year earlier, and blackeyes 478,000 bags compared with 66,000 bags a year earlier. Production of kidneys and dark red kidneys was only 356,000 bags in 1932 compared with 610,000 bags in 1931, but this season's supply is reported to be augmented by a large stock of old crop red kidneys, whereas a year earlier carry-over from the small 1930 crop was probably small. Actual figures on stocks of this class are not available.

Colored bean crops of important foreign surplus producing countries include the red kidney and cranberry bean crops of Italy, long cranberry of Japan and red kidney, cranberry and small reds of Chile, and to some extent blackeyes and other beans of Mexico and Cuba. The total edible bean crop of Italy is large this year, but it is not known how production of the various colored varieties compares with last year. The long cranberry crop of Japan is small, only 35 per cent of last year's and 32 per cent of the 1924-1928 average. There has been little competition from Chile in recent months due to export regulations, but the supplies of cranberry beans appear to have been large from the 1931-32 crop now on the market, while supplies of red kidneys were probably small. No indication is available on the blackeye crops of Mexico or Cuba.

Production of limas in 1932 including baby limas plus September 1 California warehouse stocks was 1,435,000 bags, about 25 per cent below the 1,904,000 bags of a year earlier. Much of the reduction was in baby limas for which the supply for the 1932-33 season is 470,000 bags, 39 per cent less than that of a year earlier. Supplies of regular limas are 15 per cent less than a year earlier.

Madagascar is the only foreign country producing a commercially significant surplus of lima beans. A preliminary official estimate places the crop to be marketed in 1932-33 at 351,000 bags, a slight increase over the revised estimate of 337,000 bags for the preceding crop. Trade reports place the current crop slightly above the Government estimate. Carry-over is small; Government estimates placed it at about 4,000 to 6,000 bags and trade reports say there was no carry-over.

It has been estimated that Chile had on November 15 a supply of 9,500 bags of old crop red kidneys available for export. It is estimated that the 7,900 acres planted to that variety for harvest in 1933 will yield about 100,000 bags, as compared with about 60,000 bags in 1932. The total supply, except for about 300 bags needed for seed, is said to be available for export. Similar information is not available for other export varieties, including cranberry beans and white beans.

Production of dry edible beans a/ in the United States and specified foreign countries, average 1924-1928, annual 1929-1932

Country and class	Average 1924-1928	1929	1930	1931	1932 prel.
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
United States b/:					
White beans :					
Pea beans	3,809	3,342	2,838	3,738	4,631
Calif. small white	232	416	489	429	226
Great northerns	1,000	1,763	2,114	2,062	1,126
Calif. large white	24	21	24	15	4
Marrow	133	135	166	277	92
White kidney	63	42	39	117	53
Total white beans	5,261	5,719	5,670	6,638	6,132
Colored beans:					
Red kidney	724	418	276	506	271
Dark red kidney			69	104	85
Small red	168	395	530	505	256
Cranberry	64	107	120	147	71
Pink	506	644	680	510	536
Yellow eye	131	104	81	144	76
Pinto	1,312	2,503	3,115	1,411	753
Bayo	19	12	16	20	3
Black eye	331	515	852	459	275
Total colored beans	3,325	4,498	5,729	3,806	2,326
Limas:					
Regular	886	987	1,102	1,064	872
Baby	363	486	696	663	322
Total limas	1,249	1,473	1,798	1,727	1,194
Miscellaneous and seed beans	360	550	703	491	443
Total United States beans	10,195	12,240	13,900	12,662	10,095
Canada, mostly pea beans	727	395	833	782	636
Rumania, mostly white beans	4,894	5,711	c/4,476	7,284	d/7,275
Bulgaria, mostly white beans	932	1,121	1,364	1,917	c/1,786
Hungary, mostly white beans	977	1,023	1,017	1,335	c/(990)
Yugoslavia, mostly white beans	1,766	2,068	f/3,352	2,205	c/2,205
Total Danube countries	8,569	9,923	10,209	12,741	12,256
England and Wales	3,474	2,462	3,118	2,690	2,647
France, excluded from total	2,447	2,249	3,119	3,284	g/
Italy, white beans, red kidney, cranberry, etc.	2,706	3,468	3,490	h/2,692	3,950
Czechoslovakia	287	247	214	198	204
Japan, Hokkaido province:					
Otenashi & Kotenashi (large and small white	270	727	1,261	496	237
Shiromaru (marrow type)	48	34	41	16	13
Nagauzura (long cranberry)	243	346	497	221	78
Chunaga (medium long)	491	531	533	329	355
Other varieties	440	519	587	424	516
Total Japan, Hokkaido	1,492	2,156	2,919	1,486	1,179
Madagascar, lima beans	334	360	233	337	i/ 551
Total all countries rept'g.1932	27,784	31,771	34,946	33,588	31,318

Continued

Production of dry edible beans a/ in the United States and specified foreign countries, average 1924-1928, annual 1929-1932 Cont'd.

NOTES:

Division of Statistical and Historical Research, from official reports of the reporting countries except as otherwise noted.
a/ Excluding soy, mung, adzuki, broad and horse beans and similar classes not commonly used in the United States as edible beans.
b/ The 1924-1928 average for individual varieties subject to revision.
c/ Unofficial approximation. d/ Trade estimates are generally higher than the official figure quoted here but are conflicting. e/Estimated by the Bulgarian National Bank. f/Trade reports disagree radically with the official estimate shown here and place the crop at less than that of 1929 according to United States Agricultural Attache L. G. Michael. g/ Unofficial reports indicate a short crop in 1932. h/Officially calculated on the basis of the new agricultural survey. It is 421,000 bags larger than the earlier estimate. i/ Official preliminary estimate. Trade reports place the crop at 359,000 bags.

Movement to Market and Stocks

The rail shipments of beans from United States producing regions for the first 4 months this season have been smaller than in the corresponding season last year, as is to be expected with a reduction in production. The exact amount of decrease is not know because figures for the 2 years are not entirely comparable. Total shipments for the 4 months, September - December this year, including l.c.l. movement, reached 3,329,324 bags. Last year in the same period shipments exclusive of the l.c.l. movement reached 8,795 cars, which at 400 to 600 bags to the car would be about 3,518,000 to 5,277,000 bags. Figures for both years are exclusive of truck movement which did not have a subsequent rail haul. Since this year's figure is more inclusive than last year's, the reduction is at least more than 6 per cent, and may easily be more than 25 per cent. Production this year is 20 per cent less than last year.

Reductions in shipments are indicated in all important producing regions except Michigan, for which State the figures are inconclusive. Heavy reductions have occurred in shipments from the great northern and pinto regions and from California, and some reduction is also indicated for New York.

California warehouse stocks are of special interest as of November 1 and December 1 since those are the months of heaviest stocks. Stocks on December 1, 1932, reached 2,183,234 bags, a reduction of 14 per cent from the 2,532,916 bags held at that time in 1931, and slightly above the average for the past 5 years. Stocks are rather heavy, however, considering the decrease in production, amounting to 69 per cent of production plus carry-over as represented by warehouse stocks September 1. Last year stocks on December 1 were only 61 per cent of the supply, and in 1930, 60 per cent. In the 8 years 1924-1931, December 1 stocks had varied from 42 per cent of the supply in 1923 to 67 per cent in 1926. Some of the piling-up of stocks is probably due to reluctance to sell at present prices.

Heavy holdings of limas and pinks are important elements in the present California stocks. December 1 stocks of all limas in California were 1,052,000 bags, about 15 per cent lower than a year earlier, whereas production plus September 1 stocks were about 25 per cent lower. Regular limas stocks are only 4 per cent lower than last year's heavy stocks, while baby limas are 30 per cent lower. December 1 California stocks of pinks are 362,000 bags, 31 per cent greater than last year's comparatively small stock, while United States production plus September 1 California stocks were 8 per cent less than a year earlier. There have been increases in California stocks of small reds and red kidneys also, compared with last year, but these are less important varieties. Small red stocks of

33,000 bags are practically three times as great as a year earlier, but are lower than others of the past 8 years. Red kidney stocks of 71,000 bags are 5 per cent greater than a year earlier, and the highest reported in recent years. Small white stocks of 240,000 bags are 31 per cent less than a year earlier, and below the average for the past 5 years. Blackeye stocks, at 323,000 bags, are 28 per cent less than a year earlier and slightly below the average for the past 5 years.

A survey of the principal central and eastern consuming sections, by the Hay Feed and Seed Division, the first of December, indicated that sales of pea beans in the period September through November were far in excess of those of any other class throughout the territory except in eastern Kentucky and Tennessee and western North Carolina and Virginia where pinto sales led the list. Great northerns were second in demand in the lower Ohio valley. Approximately half of the wholesale and retail stocks on December 1 in the area surveyed were pea beans, about 12 per cent great northerns, about 12 per cent pintos, 9 per cent limas and 8 per cent small whites.

Foreign

Transactions in common beans at important Rumanian markets in September - November amounted to 264,000 bags compared with 414,000 bags in that period of 1931. Transactions in specialties were only 33,000 bags compared with 77,000 a year earlier. The reduction is probably explained partly by currency restrictions involving burdensome and expensive formalities and by lack this year of the speculative interest which is reported to have characterized importing markets a year ago. There is some expectation in Rumania that unfavorable economic conditions may result in increased domestic consumption of beans in the cities and towns of that country this year.

Stocks at Marseille the beginning of January were about 120,000 bags compared with 123,000 a year earlier. Stocks at Antwerp on December 1 were 115,000 bags. No comparison is available with stocks at that time last year. Receipts of foreign beans at Antwerp in September and October were 193,000 bags compared with 125,000 in those months of 1931 and 120,000 in 1930. Most of them came from the Danube.

International Trade

United States

Foreign trade in beans by the United States in the 3 months September to November has been the lightest in 10 years at least. Both imports and exports have been at a low level. Imports were only 28,000 bags compared with 41,000 in that period of 1931 and 164,000 in 1930. Exports of domestic beans were only 28,000 bags this year compared with 31,000 in 1931 and 37,000 in 1930. Reexports of foreign beans were only 10,000 bags compared with 42,000 last year and 29,000 in 1930. The small reexport movement is probably at least partially a reflection of light stocks of beans held in bond. The net movement of beans during the 3 months was a net export of 10,000 bags in 1932 compared with a net export of 32,000 bags in 1931 and a net import of 98,000 bags in 1930.

Imports from Europe have been about the same as last year but imports from Asia, South America and Mexico have decreased. A slight increase over last year in exports of domestic beans to Cuba is more than offset by decreases in exports to Nicaragua and Mexico.

The imports for consumption during part of last season and so far this season have been in the face of domestic prices in port markets below the amount of the import duty. Such imports are probably releases from bond to save loss from storage and carrying charges, occasional imports of specialties which do not compete directly with domestic classes, such as brown beans from Antwerp, and possibly occasional imports of high quality beans for canning when that quality can not be obtained here.

Dry beans: Imports into the United States by country of origin, reexports, domestic exports and net movement, years beginning September 1, 1925-26 to 1931-32 and September-November 1930-31 - 1932-33

Country	Year beginning Sept. 1							Sept.-Nov.		
	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Imports										
Europe, 11 countries	414	480	710	144	468	141	16	107	9	9
Asia, 4 countries ..	240	253	412	324	634	508	54	21	16	7
Mexico a/	5	8	65	41	16	13	16	3	3	1
Cuba a/	1	1	1	1	10	13	2	1	b/	b/
South America, 3 countries	8	28	194	203	149	87	26	32	13	9
Madagascar	2	0	0	26	22	0	0	0	0	0
Other	46	26	101	73	160	25	1		b/	2
Total imports	716	796	1,483	782	1,459	787	115	164	41	28
Reexports of foreign beans	187	194	158	191	154	105	98	29	42	10
Balance foreign beans retained in United States	529	602	1,325	591	1,305	682	17	135	c/ -1	18
Domestic exports										
Cuba	219	248	177	97	78	39	30	6	11	15
Mexico	70	15	7	10	22	73	6	14	3	1
Nicaragua	10	14	11	7	7	18	11	2	5	1
Panama	7	9	8	7	9	11	9	3	2	3
Canada	9	14	14	12	14	8	7	3	1	1
All other	32	34	25	38	40	25	26	9	9	7
Total domestic exports	347	334	242	171	170	174	89	37	31	28
Net imports ..	182	268	1,083	395	1,135	508	b/-72	98	c -32	c -10

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. Compiled from records of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

a/ Imports include blackeye beans through June 18, 1930. From June 19 through August 30, 1930, 4,000 bags were imported from Cuba and 2,000 from Mexico. In the year 1930-31 15,000 bags were imported from Cuba and 1,000 from Mexico. In 1931-32 1,000 bags were imported from Mexico.

b/ Less than 500 bags.

c/ Net exports.

Europe

Exports as far as reported from the Danube countries in September and November were 1,827,000 bags, somewhat less than the unusually heavy movement of 2,271,000 bags exported in the corresponding period of 1931 but more than double the 889,000 bags exported in 1930. Exports from Rumania in September-November and from Hungary in September-October have been less than a year ago but on the other hand September-October exports from Bulgaria and those for September from Yugoslavia have been heavier than in 1931. The reduction in exports from Rumania is probably partly the result of light takings by Italy where the crop this year is large. But they are also hampered by currency restrictions previously mentioned. There has also been a seasonal reduction in exports from Rumania in November, as transportation became increasingly difficult.

There is some prospect, according to the office of the United States Agricultural Attache at Belgrade, for a larger market than usual for Danubian beans through Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland during the next few months as the result of exceptionally low freight rates offered by railways and steamship lines on beans shipped in transit for the North and Baltic Sea ports. The rate on beans from Hungary to German North Sea and Baltic Sea ports was reduced nearly 40 per cent beginning October 15 and the Polish Government reduced transit freight on beans from Rumania by 15 per cent for the first half of November, a reduction said to amount to 17 to 20 cents per 100 pounds. There are as yet no difficulties or limitations placed on bean imports into Denmark, Sweden and Norway, and it is expected that the Danube Basin may direct a part of its surplus to these countries. Bulgaria has entered into negotiations with a large German firm for the disposition of the 1932 surplus of that country.

Exports from Hungary and Yugoslavia are hindered by high interior prices which make purchases by importing countries unprofitable in comparison with those from the other Danube countries. Italian importers are said to be showing considerable interest in all colored specialties in Yugoslavia, and important transactions are said to have been closed.

Italian trade reflects the change in the production situation. Exports in the 1 month of September 1932 were nearly as great as in the whole preceding 12 months and imports fell off to less than a third of imports the preceding September.

Seaborne receipts at Marseille were 532,000 bags in September-December, somewhat larger than the 449,000 bags a year earlier. Receipts in October, November and December have been considerably higher than in those months of 1931 and may reflect the short crop in France. Imports into the United Kingdom in September-October have been only about two-thirds as large as a year earlier but are well above those of 1930. Imports into Belgium in September 1932 were larger than in the preceding September, a year when total imports were heavy.

Japan

Exports of dry beans from Japan in September 1932 reached 24,000 bags, more than twice the exports of that month in 1931 in spite of the reduction in production of export varieties in 1932. The exports are presumably clearing up stocks of old crop beans, since their export season does not usually start until about November or December.

Chile

Approximate unofficial reports of bean exports from Chile in early September showed shipment of 27,000 bags. A decree was enacted effective September 14, 1932 prohibiting exports of beans until November 30. In the 3 months, September-November last year exports from Chile reached 76,000 bags and in 1930, 106,000 bags.

Egypt

Word has been received of special aid granted by the Egyptian Government to bean exporters of that country, originally planned according to a sliding scale scheme reaching a maximum of 10 Turkish pounds per ardeb, about $1.43 for 100 pounds, dependent upon the price in foreign markets. This plan was found to be unsatisfactory in operation and was altered to permit flat amounts of subsidy per ardeb, varying with the difficulties to be overcome in the different markets to which the beans were exported. The amount of the subsidy on exports to France, where foreign beans pay an import duty, was placed at 15 Turkish pounds per ardeb, or approximately $2.13 per 100 pounds. Since Egypt has been an importing country in recent years with exports insignificant, it does not seem likely that the bounty will affect materially the international bean situation. In 1931 Egypt imported 58,547 bags of common beans and exported only 149 bags, and in 1930 imported 48,099 bags and exported 243 bags.

Foreign trade in dry beans for specified countries, annual 1929-30 to 1931-32, stated periods 1930-1932

Country and movement	Year beginning Sept. 1			From Sept. 1			
	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	Through	1930	1931	1932
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags		1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
United States, net imports ...	1,135	508	a/ -72	Nov.	98[illegible]	a/ -32	a/ -10
Rumania, exports	1,185	1,264	3,154	Nov.	530	2,002	b/1,436
Bulgaria, exports	269	389	421	Oct.	180	123	232
Hungary, exports	474	182	c/(145)	Oct.	76	109	73
Yugoslavia, exports	536	537	134	Sept.	103	37	86
Italy imports ..	785	665	2,295	Sept.	23	210	62
exports ..	108	82	36	Sept	27	6	30
France, seaborne receipts at Marseille d/ ..	e/	e/	679	Dec.	e/	449	532
Belgium, imports	203	234	538	Sept.	5	53	58
exports	41	170	370	Sept.	6	17	14
United Kingdom, general imports	1,426	756	1,167	Oct.	99	319	202
reexports	131	19	20	Oct.	2	3	2
Japan, exports .	910	976	416	Sept.	8	11	24
Chile, exports .	f/ 556	371	215	Nov.	106	76	g/ 27

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. Compiled from official sources and reports of the Foreign Agricultural and Consular Services.

a/ Net exports.

b/ Preliminary for November.

c/ Through April only. No reports for later months.

d/ Includes receipts in bond for cleaning, grading and reexport, nearly all from the Danube countries. e/ Not available. f/ Eleven months. December omitted. g/ Rough approximation of exports in September before the export prohibition went into effect.

Prices

Bean prices as a whole have been discouragingly low so far through the 1932-33 marketing season. They have been generally declining for the first 4 months of the season despite a reduction in United States bean production not offset by an increase in foreign production. For many varieties, especially for colored beans, there was some strength shown the beginning of the season, but prices tended to sag later. In most cases, the low level can probably be fairly attributed in part to the unfavorable economic conditions and the low level of prices for all commodities. During the holiday season, reduced purchases prior to inventory taking has been mentioned as an additional temporary cause of slack demand, and sagging prices. In the case of white bean prices the increase in domestic production of pea beans and ample white bean supplies abroad are important contributing factors, but for colored beans with a decrease in domestic production and no indication of heavy pressure of foreign beans, there is less in the supply situation to account for sagging prices. Recent improvement has been shown in prices of red kidneys, cranberries and blackeyes.

The greatest price reduction has been in the pea beans. The price of choice pea beans at New York on January 14 was down to $1.82 for 100 pounds, which is $1.00 below the average price in August, the end of the old crop season, and $1.17 below the average price for the 1931-32 season. (See figure at end of issue) In view of the 24 per cent increase in pea bean production, and the ample supply of white beans abroad, minimizing any possible demand for domestic white beans in foreign markets, a considerable part of the price reduction for this class can be attributed to the supply situation. Prices of great northerns and small whites usually follow the same general course as the price of pea beans, with variations at least partly attributable to variations in supplies. Prices of great northern and small whites rose somewhat in comparison to pea beans, following decreases in production of those classes. Great northern production this year was 45 per cent less than last year, and the Chicago price of great northerns on January 14 was 85 cents above the price of pea beans in that market, whereas in August it had been only 49 cents above. Small whites in San Francisco on January 14 were 48 cents higher than the New York price of pea beans, while in August they had been 19 cents below. This strength in small white prices followed a reduction of 37 per cent in the supply of California small whites for 1932-33 below that of a year ago.

The average Colorado farm price of beans, practically all pintos, in mid-December was 20 cents above the August 15 price and 15 cents above the average for 1931-32. The Chicago January 14 price was 29 cents above the August average, but 19 cents below the 1931-32 average. This increase is slight in view of the reduction of nearly 50 per cent in reported pinto supplies. The price of C. R. C. grade at Colorado shipping points rose 15 cents from mid-December to January 12. The price of pinks at California shipping points January 14 was 20 cents below the August average and 44 cents below the 1931-32 average in spite of a decrease of 8 per cent in production plus California carry-over of that variety. The January 14 price of cranberries in California was 70 cents above the August price, but 38 cents below the 1931-32 average following a reduction of 39 per cent in California supplies. Prices of small reds have fallen in spite of a reduction in production.

The price of regular limas in New York on January 14 was 41 cents below the August price and also 41 cents below the 1931-32 average, in spite of a reduction of 25 per cent in supplies of all limas, including 15 per cent decrease in regular lima supplies and 39 per cent in baby limas. The California price the middle of January was 45 cents below August for regular limas and 13 cents below for baby limas.

Black eye prices in California in mid-January were 77 cents above the August average and 42 cents above the 1931-32 average, following a decrease of 28 per cent in supplies.

The weighted average price of beans to growers in the United States in mid-December was $1.56 per 100 pounds, a decrease of 46 cents from the August 15 price and 64 cents from the average for 1931-32, in spite of a reduction of 20 per cent in United States bean production and a reduction of 7 per cent in total production of all countries so far reported.

The competitive strength of foreign white bean prices competing with pea beans can probably be best measured by prices of Moldavian hand-picked beans duty paid into France at Marseille, an important sorting and reexport market. It has been stated by French dealers that this price is approximately equivalent to the price c. i. f. New York, since the amount of the French import duty is approximately equivalent to shipping charges to New York, rebagging, commissions, etc. Since ocean freight rates from Marseille to American ports are now quite low it is stated the New York c. i. f. price might be a few cents under the Marseille quotations. The Moldavian hand-picked beans include medium pea beans (under 28) and pea beans, extra (under 27). This class was selling at Marseille at an average of $1.60 in September held almost steady to an average of $1.59 in October and November, falling to $1.52 in December. The import duty of $3.00 per 100 pounds must be paid in addition to the c. i. f. price for beans entered for consumption in the United States.

Contrary to the trend of bean prices elsewhere, prices of domestic beans in France were rising between the latter part of August and the last of November, which is probably a reflection of the reported reductien in the French bean crop. December prices in France, however, did not maintain the November level for most classes. Common bean prices in Rumania fell from an average of 71 cents in August to 61 cents in November.

Beans: Price per 100 pounds, specified varieties in United States markets, September 1931-January 1932

Year and month	WHITE BEANS AND LIMAS — New York, price from receivers to wholesale distributors, choice — Pea: Domestic	Pea: Imported	Great northern	Otenashi, Japan	Kotenashi, Japan	Marrow, domestic	Lima, regular, California	Chicago, in car lots to wholesalers: Great northern	San Francisco f. o. b. rail, California shipping points: Small white	Baby lima
	Dolls	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls	Dolls	Dolls.	Dolls	Dolls.
1931-32:										
Av.	2.99	a/b/(1.20)	2.88	a/c/(1.43)	a/b/(1.56)	3.30	4.96	3.24	2.73	2.86
Sept.	4.21	4.11	3.72	4.60	4.58	3.88	6.08	d/4.81	3.56	3.78
Oct.	3.61	a/ (1.38)	3.30	4.60	a/ (1.60)	3.67	5.78	d/3.49	2.98	3.22
Nov.	3.66	a/ (1.43)	3.36	4.46	a/ (1.62)	4.12	5.88	3.36	3.38	3.58
Dec.	3.01	a/ (1.20)	3.01	a/ (1.76)	a/ (1.48)	3.95	5.50	3.44	3.12	3.10
Jan.	2.82	a/ (1.12)	2.82	a/ (1.52)	a/ (1.34)	3.59	5.10	3.50	2.92	2.88
Feb.	2.75	a/ (1.12)	2.72	a/ (1.38)	a/ (1.30)	2.93	4.56	3.38	2.58	2.40
Aug.	2.82			a/ (1.35)	a/ (1.27)	2.97	4.96	2.82	2.63	3.28
1932-33:										
Sept.	2.67	---	e/ 3.08	2.38	a/ (1.29)	3.23	5.41	2.91	2.99	3.90
Oct.	2.25	---	2.87	2.05	a/ (1.27)	2.92	5.41	2.75	2.73	4.18
Nov.	2.01	---	---	1.81	a/ (1.26)	2.81	4.86	2.52	2.60	3.42
Dec.	1.88	---	---	1.62	a/ (1.25)	2.61	4.63	2.58	2.59	3.15
Jan. 3 f/ ..	1.82	---	---	1.62	a/ (1.25)	2.50	4.55	2.45	2.35	3.15
Jan.14	1.82	---	---	1.62	a/ (1.15)	2.45	4.55	2.45	2.30	3.15

Year and month	COLORED BEANS — New York price from receivers to wholesale distributors, choice: Red kidney, domestic	Cranberry: Round, domestic	Cranberry: Naga-uzura, Japan	Cranberry: Frutillo Chile	Chicago, in car lots to wholesalers, pinto	Colorado mid-month average price to producers, (pinto)	San Francisco, f. o. b. rail, California shipping points: Small red	Cranberry	Pink	Blackeye
	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.
1931-32:										
Av.	g/ 3.03	4.85	a/h/(2.21)	---	3.04	1.35	2.99	3.66	2.99	2.53
Sept.	e/ 4.88	6.67	5.04	4.74	3.28	1.50	2.58	5.38	2.82	3.22
Oct.	4.46	6.54	5.02	4.69	3.17	1.30	2.45	4.40	2.75	3.10
Nov.	4.61	6.18	5.23	4.76	3.57	1.95	3.50	4.60	3.52	3.52
Dec.	3.89	5.33	4.38	4.54	3.62	1.50	3.50	4.68	4.00	3.05
Jan.	3.38	5.07	4.58	4.38	3.62	1.45	3.32	4.45	3.58	2.90
Feb.	2.87	4.82	a/ (1.68)	a/ (1.54)	3.50	1.25	2.95	3.75	3.15	2.32

Continued -

Beans: Price per 100 pounds, specified varieties in United States markets, September 1931-January 1932 - Contd

COLORED BEANS - Contd

Year and month	New York price from receivers to wholesale distributors, choice: Red kidney, domestic	Cranberry: Round, domestic	Cranberry: Naga-uzura, Japan	Cranberry: Frutillo Chile	Chicago, in car lots to wholesalers, pinto	Colorado mid-month average price to producers (pinto)	San Francisco, f. o. b. rail, California shipping points: Small red	Cranberry	Pink	Blackeye
1931-32	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.
Contd										
Aug.	2.70	3.61			2.56	1.30	2.85	2.58	2.75	2.18
1932-33										
Sept.	3.10	3.83	a/ (2.35)	---	2.97	1.70	2.85	3.18	3.28	3.22
Oct.	3.25	3.95	a/ (2.53)	---	2.94	1.70	2.95	3.18	3.15	3.22
Nov.	2.96	4.11	---	---	2.82	1.50	2.72	3.18	2.72	3.00
Dec.	2.45	4.04	---	---	2.85	1.50	2.35	3.05	2.75	2.75
Jan. 3 f/	2.50	4.00	---	---	2.85	i/	2.35	3.15	2.68	2.80
Jan. 14	2.70	4.08	---	---	2.85	i/	2.30	3.28	2.55	2.95

New York prices are averages of daily prices from the New York Producers' Price Current, Chicago prices are averages of daily prices from the Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin. The prices of small whites are averages of daily prices from the San Francisco Commercial News. Other San Francisco prices are one price a month for the Saturday nearest the 15th of the month from the California Fruit News. The Colorado price to producers is as reported by Crop Estimates Division for the 15th of the month.

a/ In bond.
b/ 10 months only.
c/ 9 months only.
d/ Reported as Michigan great northern in September and through November 5.
e/ Quoted only last few days of the month.
f/ December 31, 1932 for San Francisco.
g/ 11 months only.
h/ 7 months only.
i/ The Colorado price f. o. b. shipping point for C. R. C. in car lots including brokerage rose from an average of $2.12 on December 14 to $2.28 January 12 according to reports to the Division of Hay, Feed and Seed. This grade is, of course, higher than the average shown in this column.

Beans, dry: Price per 100 pounds in foreign markets, September 1931-December 1932

Year and month	Antwerp, for early delivery, f. o. b. Pearl	Marrow	Small flat	Ote-nashi	Marseille c. i. f. Moldavian hand picked (pea) b/	Galatz Danubian common c/	Common, unsorted, d/	Otaru, ex-warehouse a/ Ote-nashi	Naga-uzura
	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.
1931-32:									
Sept.	2.05	2.57	1.64	1.72	----	1.02	.75	1.19	1.07
Oct.	1.85	2.18	1.57	1.73	1.89	1.03	.80	1.09	1.07
Nov.	1.91	2.27	1.57	1.90	1.88	1.08	.80	e/1.53	e/1.80
Dec.	1.78	2.20	1.46	1.80	1.79	.96	.70	e/1.18	e/1.57
Jan.	1.74	1.93	1.42	1.85	1.79	.97	.71	e/1.11	e/1.49
Feb.	1.75	1.81	1.42	1.69	1.86	1.00	.76	e/1.06	e/1.41
1932-33:									
Sept.	f/1.44	f/1.42	g/1.26	f/2.17	1.60	.85	.70	e/1.00	----
Oct.	---	g/1.68	g/1.21	f/1.81	1.59	.80	.68	----	----
Nov.	1.39	1.66	1.16	f/1.32	1.59	.76	.60	----	----
Dec.	----	----	----	----	1.52	.70	----	----	----

Compiled from reports of the Agricultural Foreign Service and Consular Service at the markets listed.

a/ Ocean freight rates from Otaru to Atlantic and Gulf ports in the summer of 1931 were reported at about the equivalent of 36 cents per 100 pounds, rates to Pacific ports were about 15 cents per 100 pounds.

b/ This price, duty paid into France, is considered by the trade at Marseille to be roughly equivalent to the price c. i. f. New York, the amount of the French import duty being approximately replaced by shipping charges to New York, commissions, etc.

c/ Six per cent tolerance colored beans and foreign material.

d/ In car lots at storehouse or at railway station on port line. Prices are daily averages.

e/ Averages for the 1st and 15th of the month. During much of 1931-32, these averages would be higher than for the full month, since prices were falling during much of the period.

f/ Old crop.

g/ New crop.

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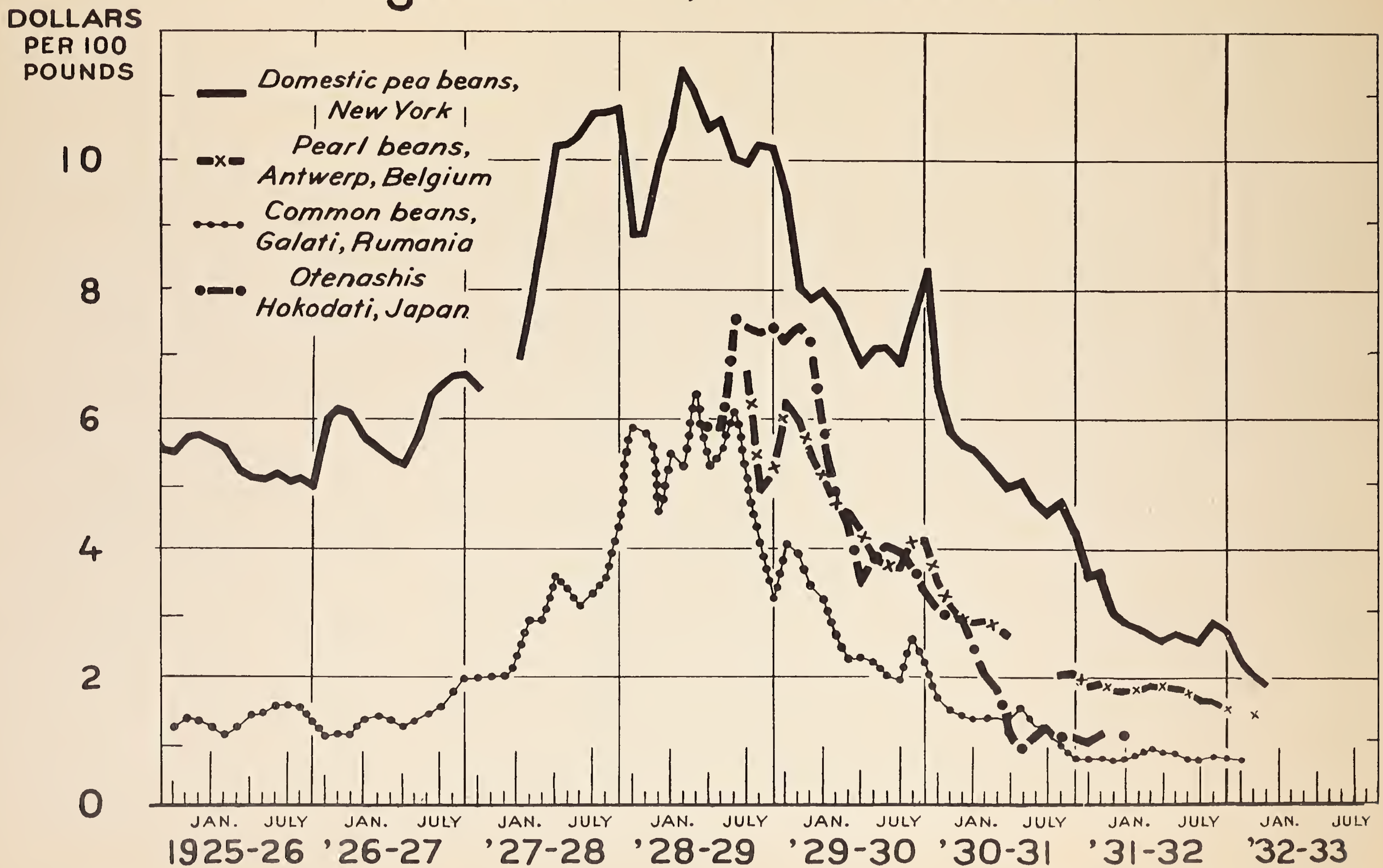
Pea Beans and Specified Competing Varieties: Price at New York and Foreign Markets, 1925-26 to Date



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 21919-B BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

B-11 February 28, 1933

WORLD DRY BEAN PROSPECTS

Summary

The Chicago price of pinto beans has risen noticeably in the past month, as well as bayos in California, while baby limas and pinks in California have fallen, and other prices have fluctuated mostly within a narrow range. Domestic prices are too high compared with those of foreign countries to encourage heavy purchase of United States beans by other Western Hemisphere consuming countries, and foreign trade, both of exports and imports, has continued light through January. Exports in January were decreased by a falling off in Cuban takings. Puerto Rico, which pays the duty of $3.00 per 100 pounds on foreign beans while receiving domestic beans duty free, has been receiving heavy shipments from continental United States this season. Definite reports of a decrease in the bean crop of France give more definite basis for the previous expectation that requirements in that country would create a market for part of the Danubian surplus. A decrease in the Mexican crop in 1932 has not so far resulted in any increase in exports to that country from the United States; on the contrary, shipments have been smaller for the first 5 months this year than in the corresponding months last year. Although the domestic market has generally been reported as quiet, there seems to have been a normal rail movement from producing regions this season through January in comparison to the size of the crop except from California and the Great Northern region. From those regions the rail movement has been light. Figures available for the pinto region indicate that about 60 per cent of the total supply, including carry-over, has already been moved from producing districts in the first 5 months of the season. Stocks in California warehouses on February 1

were smaller in quantity than a year earlier, but represented a larger percentage of the year's supply for most classes. Small white and blackeye stocks, however, were smaller on February 1 this year than last, both in actual quantity and in proportion to the year's supply of those varieties.

Foreign Supplies

Production estimates recently received for four additional foreign countries bring the total crop for 15 countries reporting in 1932 to 36,746,000 bags compared with 40,287,000 bags in those countries in 1931, 40,446,000 in 1930, 36,718,000 in 1929, and 27,410,000 in 1928. The above totals include crops of all the more important countries affecting demand for domestic supplies, except Chile. Production in Mexico is placed at 2,583,000 bags, 287,000 bags less than the 1931 crop and 403,000 bags less than the average for the past 5 years. But in the face of this decrease in Mexican production, United States dry bean exports to Mexico for September-January of this season were only 1,334 bags compared with 3,415 bags in the same period last year. The crop in France is placed at 2,287,000 bags, a reduction of 997,000 bags below the large harvest of 1931 and 292,000 bags below the average for the past 5 years. This reduction is in line with earlier indications of a short crop in France and has probably been pretty well discounted in current prices. The reduction is reflected in increased seaborne receipts of dry beans at Marseille. These receipts reached 588,489 bags for the 5 months, September-January, an increase of 105,349 bags over receipts the corresponding period last year, the increase occurring in spite of a lack of foreign demand and lack of the speculative interest which characterized the market there in the fall of 1931. Distribution of stocks figures suggest that the receipts this year are principally for French consumption rather than for reexport. The crop in Germany is placed at 239,000 bags and that of Scotland at 57,000, both about the same as a year earlier. Production in Austria is unofficially estimated at about 262,000 bags compared with 246,000 in 1931.

Prices

The most encouraging recent development in the bean price situation is an increase in the Chicago price of pintos. The pinto price rose from an average of \$2.92 per 100 pounds in January to \$3.20 by February 21. The cranberry price rose less, from \$4.12 in January to \$4.20 by February 23. The marrow price at New York rose from an average of \$2.57 in January to \$2.80 by February 11, but fell back again to \$2.68 by February 23 and the bayo price in California rose from \$4.62 January 14 to \$5.12 February 18, but these last two are minor varieties. Prices of other varieties have either been fluctuating in comparatively narrow ranges or have declined. Prices of pea beans and great northerns have remained practically unchanged in the past month, and small whites have increased slightly. Regular limas have fallen slightly, baby limas in California fell about 17 cents, blackeyes fell 13 cents, and pinks 23 cents in the past month. Recent demand has been reported as slight for most varieties, and markets quiet, but sellers of many varieties

Correction: In the issue of B-10, January 23, 1933, p.4, line 6 should be corrected to read, " *** compared with <u>666</u>,000 bags a year earlier", instead of 66,000.

are also reported as reluctant to sell at present prices. Prices of most varieties in Antwerp and Marseille rose slightly during January. Pearl beans at Antwerp rose from $1.34 the first 2 weeks in January to $1.54 the fourth week. This is a variety somewhat similar to the pea bean of this country. The price of Moldavian hand-picked pea beans, duty paid at Marseille, has remained unchanged during the same period at $1.52 per 100 pounds while domestic pea beans were selling at $1.84 at New York. The Marseille price, duty paid, is approximately equivalent to the price of that class of bean c.i.f., New York without duty.

Movement and Stocks of the Domestic Crop

Total rail shipments of beans from producing regions for the first 5 months of the current season seem to have been made at about a normal rate for the size of the crop in Michigan, New York, and the pinto region, but shipments from the Great Northern region and California seem to have been small even for the short crops there. No exact comparison can be made since the figures for previous years have been car-lots of varying capacity, whereas this year's figures are in actual weight and include less than car-lot shipments. Total rail shipments for the United States, September-January, are reported by the Hay, Feed and Seed Division, at 4,007,099 bags this season. For the corresponding period last year car-lot shipments reached 9,927 cars which at 400 to 600 bags to the car would be 3,970,800 to 5,956,200 bags. L.c.l. shipments would have to be added to last year's figure to make it comparable to this year's. For both years truck shipments are excluded unless they had a subsequent rail haul. Figures are now available for the truck movement from the pinto growing regions of Colorado and New Mexico through December this season, reaching 88,636 bags, and bringing the total movement reported from those States to 579,645 bags, or 59 per cent of the year's supply of 984,000 bags inclusive of production and warehouse carry-over.

Total stocks of beans in California warehouses on February 1, 1933 were smaller in quantity than on the corresponding date of either of the two preceding years, but continued heavy in proportion to the size of the 1932 crop. Reluctance to sell at current prices is probably partly responsible for the heavy stocks. Total February 1 stocks of 1,650,984 bags amounted to 52 per cent of the total year's supply to be disposed of including production and carry-over. Last year the total February 1 stocks of 2,074,353 bags were 50 per cent of the year's supply. Regular lima stocks of 508,922 bags on February 1, 1933, were slightly larger than the 503,674 bags a year earlier in spite of a reduction in crop, and amounted to 53 per cent of the supply compared with 44 per cent a year earlier. Baby lima stocks were only 288,664 bags this February compared with 441,568 bags a year earlier, but were 61 per cent of this year's supply, a larger proportion than at that time in any of the preceding 8 years. Stocks of pinks of 287,155 bags were 52 per cent of the total supply while last year's February 1 stocks of 237,797 bags were 43 per cent of the supply. Stocks of small whites and of blackeyes have both been reduced, both in actual quantity and in relation to the year's available supply. February stocks of 176,798 bags of small whites were 55 per cent of the year's supply this season, while last year's 289,816 bags were 56 per cent of the year's supply. Blackeye stocks of 224,914 bags are only 47 per cent of the supply, while stocks of 374,448 bags on hand a year ago were 56 per cent of that year's supply.

Foreign Trade

Foreign trade in beans continued light in January, imports reaching only 5,263 bags, reexports 2,912 bags and exports of domestic beans 5,033 bags. Domestic exports in January are considerably less than the 13,615 bags exported in December, caused principally by a reduction in shipments to Cuba which fell from 3,963 bags in December to 829 bags in January. The net movement for the first 5 months, September-January, of this season is a net export of 23,894 bags, compared with 33,030 bags in that period of 1931-32.

Of more importance than foreign trade in the disposition of the domestic supply is the amount shipped to Puerto Rico, which is not included in exports. These shipments have been heavy this season. Total shipments for the 5 months September-January this season reached 198,290 bags compared with 143,232 bags in that period in 1931-32 and 102,429 bags in 1930-31.

Receipts of beans at Marseille fell off seasonally in January after the close of the Danube to navigation but the total September-January receipts reached 586,489 bags compared with 483,140 in that period of 1931-32. The increase is attributed to demand within France following the short crop there, rather than demand in other countries. Receipts the rest of the season are expected there to equal or exceed the receipts of the corresponding period a year ago. Stocks at Marseille the beginning of February are reported at 103,000 bags compared with about 120,000 a month earlier, and only 83,160 bags the beginning of February a year ago. The increase in holdings over last year is principally accounted for by stocks in customs warehouses duty paid, indicating increase in takings for French consumption.

Receipts at Antwerp through December amounting to 378,640 bags, were nearly as great as the heavy receipts of 408,888 bags for that period a year earlier. Stocks at Antwerp the end of January were much heavier than a year earlier.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

B-12 April 24, 1933

Japanese Bean Production in Competition with United States

Summary

Japan has been the source of more of the United States dry bean imports than any other one country in practically every year of the past decade, and that country has shown a capacity to expand bean acreage easily, especially for the export varieties. These facts make the course of recent developments in the Japanese industry of special interest to American bean growers. There are two bean varieties, especially, which compete with United States varieties in our markets. These two are the tenashis, including large, medium and small whites, which compete with our large and small whites, and less directly with other white varieties, and the nagauzuras or long cranberries which compete with our round cranberries and to a minor extent with other colored varieties.

We have been importing both tenashis and nagauzuras in recent years until 1931 when domestic prices dropped to near or even below the amount of our import duty on beans. The Japanese prices of the two export varieties have followed the same general course as prices of the corresponding varieties in the United States in the past 5 years, but with varying margins. Annual shipments of these two varieties from Japan to the United States in these 5 years have tended to vary with the price margin, shipments being heavy when Japanese prices plus duty were well below the domestic price, and dropping to practically nothing when the Japanese price plus duty was equal to the domestic price. The relationship is closer in the case of nagauzuras than for otenashis, a representative subclass of the tenashi group. While the price figures available are too scanty to serve as a basis for a

careful analysis of the causes for the variations in this price margin, they do give a working hypothesis to be tested by later experience. In the case of nagauzuras the figures suggest that the amount of the annual margin is governed to a considerable extent by the size of the Japanese nagauzura crop. In the case of otenashis also the size of the Japanese crop seems to be a factors, but the European white bean situation also seems to be a factor of importance.

In the 10 years ended 1930, Japan increased materially the acreage and production of the two export varieties, especially the tenashis, partly at the expense of other varieties and partly by using new acreage. There was a material curtailment in 1931 and 1932, but acreage of otenashis even then was larger than in any year before 1929, and the nagauzura acreage was larger than the 1921-1925 average. The preceding increase had been for the foreign market. Disappearance of beans within Japan, while it varied from year to year, has shown no definite tendency to increase, and per capita disappearance has even tended to decrease.

Production and Domestic Consumption

Production of common beans in Japan is confined practically entirely to the province of Hokkaido. Total production has increased from an annual average of 1,513,000 bags of 100 pounds each in the 5 years, 1921-1925, to 1,920,000 bags in the period 1927-1931. The increase has been almost entirely for export purposes, aside from increased seed required to plant the increasing acreage. The balance for domestic consumption for the same periods rose only from 1,155,000 to 1,176,000 bags. The balance per capita has fluctuated somewhat but fell from 1.98 pounds per capita in the earlier period to 1.85 in the latter period. This is a small consumption compared with between 9 and 10 pounds per capita in United States.

Production figures are subject to rather wide variations due to weather changes from year to year. The trend in annual figures is probably better visualized by considering the acreage. This rose from 1?1,000 acres in 1921 to 221,000 by 1930, after which it fell off to 185,000 by 1932. (See Table 1).

The Japanese bean classes included in the above figures are made up mostly of six varieties: (1) Tenashis, similar to our California large and small whites, and which include three subgroups: tenashis or large whites, chutenashis or medium whites and kotenashis or small whites - the term otenashi seems often to be used in production and trade statistics to designate the whole tenashi group; (2), nagauzuras, or long cranberries; (3), chunagas, somewhat like pintos; (4), kintokis, about the color of dark red kidneys but smaller and more nearly round; (5), daifukus, or white beans somewhat similar to the European large flats but larger; and (6), shiromarus, a marrow type of bean. The increase in acreage and production has been in three varieties, tenashis, nagauzuras and kintokis, of which the first two are important export varieties. The acreage of these varieties was further increased by shifts from the other varieties, grown largely for domestic consumption. Acreage of tenashis rose from 4,000 acres in 1921 to 86,000 in 1930, then fell off to 33,000 by 1932. Nagauzura acreage rose from 15,000 acres in 1921 to 36,000 in 1930, then fell to 20,000 acres. The acreage of kintokis, continued to increase even after 1930, going from 20,000 acres in 1921 to 58,000 in 1932. Acreage of chunagas has fluctuated somewhat in the period under review but has shown no upward trend. This class is exported to a minor extent but used mainly for domestic consumption. The total acreage of other classes has tended to decrease through the period, falling from 48,000 acres in 1921 to 22,000 in 1932.

Table 1.- Acreage and production of common beans, by variety, at Hokkaido, Japan, 1921-1932

Year	Tenashi, (large and small white)	Nagauzura (long cranberry)	Chunaga, (similar to pinto)	Kintoki, (a red bean)	Daifuku, (large flat)	Shiromaru, (marrow type)	Other varieties	Total
	Acreage							
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
1921	4,165	15,049	34,218	20,261	11,804	10,283	25,588	121,368
1922	2,998	24,720	55,933	31,326	10,086	6,413	21,551	153,027
1923	5,821	18,285	53,311	23,225	10,879	6,219	17,864	135,604
1924	10,944	13,399	45,359	18,895	10,566	5,314	16,466	120,943
1925	23,781	16,564	48,887	17,740	10,300	5,288	13,345	135,905
1926	16,961	20,023	49,981	16,964	10,706	4,630	14,522	133,787
1927	16,807	22,417	47,984	25,978	10,826	3,594	9,663	137,269
1928	26,044	22,701	42,724	26,229	10,037	2,768	8,405	138,908
1929	57,232	26,764	48,182	27,820	10,457	2,622	9,853	182,930
1930	86,354	35,851	46,387	29,281	10,152	2,969	9,926	220,920
1931	54,247	28,639	47,019	34,810	9,039	2,357	9,807	185,918
1932	33,076	20,112	52,865	57,833	9,810	2,029	9,673	185,398
	Production							
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
1921	26,260	185,860	479,300	216,100	105,340	102,760	360,680	1,476,300
1922	49,200	258,260	645,320	308,620	101,720	60,460	198,500	1,622,080
1923	109,680	190,080	615,660	201,040	104,020	54,100	152,800	1,427,380
1924	179,320	140,500	422,920	129,540	114,160	62,420	147,760	1,196,620
1925	431,640	242,560	608,680	176,860	118,700	81,260	181,460	1,841,160
1926	165,360	250,000	508,900	137,540	112,000	47,220	161,340	1,382,360
1927	257,300	285,900	525,080	327,720	93,120	28,040	94,540	1,617,280
1928	314,620	294,660	390,480	258,160	79,040	20,080	65,840	1,422,880
1929	727,140	345,720	530,580	313,400	108,460	33,500	96,740	2,155,540
1930	1,260,960	496,820	532,820	340,260	138,380	42,180	107,520	2,918,940
1931	495,640	220,780	329,280	297,220	64,440	15,580	62,060	1,485,000
1932	237,020	77,560	334,920	386,440	77,600	13,280	52,440	1,179,260

Compiled from reports of the Hokkaido Government Farm Products Inspection Bureau (Hokkaido Nosanbutsu Kensasho), and supplementary statistics from the same source reported by Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai. A bag is 100 pounds.

Foreign Trade

Exports of tenashis and nagauzuras from Hokkaido in recent years have made up almost the entire common bean export from Japan, as will be seen from Table 2, page 9 . For the 8 years for which figures are available tenashi exports from Hokkaido averaged 55 percent of the total bean exports from Japan and nagauzuras 35 percent. Exports of tenashis averaged 60 percent of the tenashi crop and exports of nagauzuras 64 percent of the crop of that variety.

The United States was the chief market for both tenashi and nagauzura surpluses until 1930-31. (See table 3, page 10) Shipments of otenashis to this country in the period 1924-25 to 1929-30 ranged from 49 percent of the total shipments of that variety from the 1928 crop to 90 percent from the 1927 crop. They fell to 40 percent from the 1930 crop and none from the 1931 crop. In bags of 100 pounds the shipments to this country rose from 73,000 from the 1924 crop to 355,000 from the 1929 crop, then fell to 282,000 from the 1930 crop. Europe has recently been an increasingly important market and took the largest share of the exports from the 1930 and 1931 crops.

Shipments of nagauzuras to continental United States in the period 1924-25 to 1929-30 ranged from 97 percent of the shipments from the 1924 crop to 74 percent from the 1928 crop. Then they dropped off to 60 percent from the 1930 crop and only 10 percent from the 1931 crop. The nagauzura shipments to the United States rose from 101,000 bags from the 1924 crop to 219,000 from the 1929 crop, falling off to 176,000 from the 1930 crop and only 5,000 from the 1931 crop. Most of the balance of the nagauzura shipments have gone to Puerto Rico, Cuba and Mexico. (See table 4, page 11).

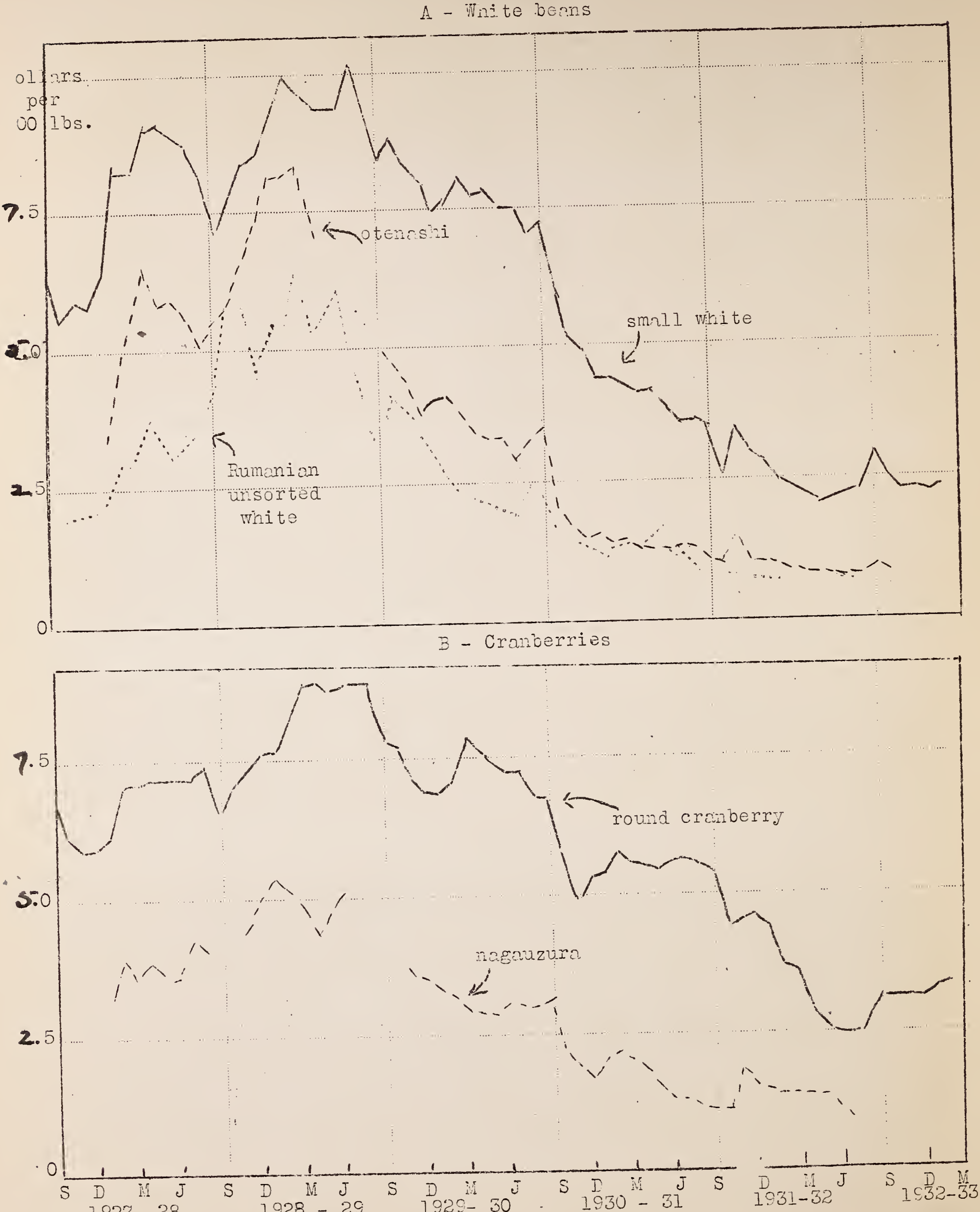
A comparison of the reports of exports to the United States from Hokkaido by crop years with United States reports of imports of beans from Japan, by years beginning December 1, shows that these varieties from Hokkaido make up practically our total bean imports from Japan. For this purpose the import year beginning December 1 was used for the United States since new crop beans from Japan do not usually begin to arrive in any quantity until in December.

Prices

The prices of the two important Japanese export varieties of beans, otenashis and nagauzuras, at Otaru in the past 5 years have for the most part followed the same general course as corresponding varieties in California, as shown in Figure 1. They showed independent strength since 1930-31 when California prices approached and then fell below the amount of the United States import duty. Prices of other white beans in Japan, the daifukus and shiromarus, in 1927-28 through 1930-31 followed fairly closely the prices of otenashis but in 1931-32 were much above the level of otenashi prices, from which it appears that otenashis can be substituted for the other varieties only to a limited extent in Japan. Prices of the colored beans, chunagas and kintokis have been following the general price course of nagauzuras but with many minor variations. For Japanese prices by months, see Table 6 pages 13 and 14.

Part of the difference between Japanese prices and prices of corresponding varieties in the United States is taken up by the amount of the United

Figure 1.- Price of otenashi and nagauzura beans at Otaru, small white and round cranberry f.o.b. California, and Rumanian unsorted white at Galatz



Prices of the two important Japanese export varieties, otenashi and nagauzura, in the past five years have for the most part followed the same general course as the corresponding varieties in the United States.

States import duty on dry beans and shipping costs between the two countries. The import duty amounted to $1.75 per 100 pounds from September 21, 1922 to June 18, 1930. After that time it has been $3.00 per 100 pounds. Ocean freight rates on dry beans from Japanese ports to the United States are equivalent to about 15 cents per 100 pounds to San Francisco and other Pacific ports and nearly 36 cents to New York and other Atlantic and Gulf ports, according to information supplied by the Shipping Board. These rates have been in force at least since 1929.

Price Relationships and Competition with United States Varieties

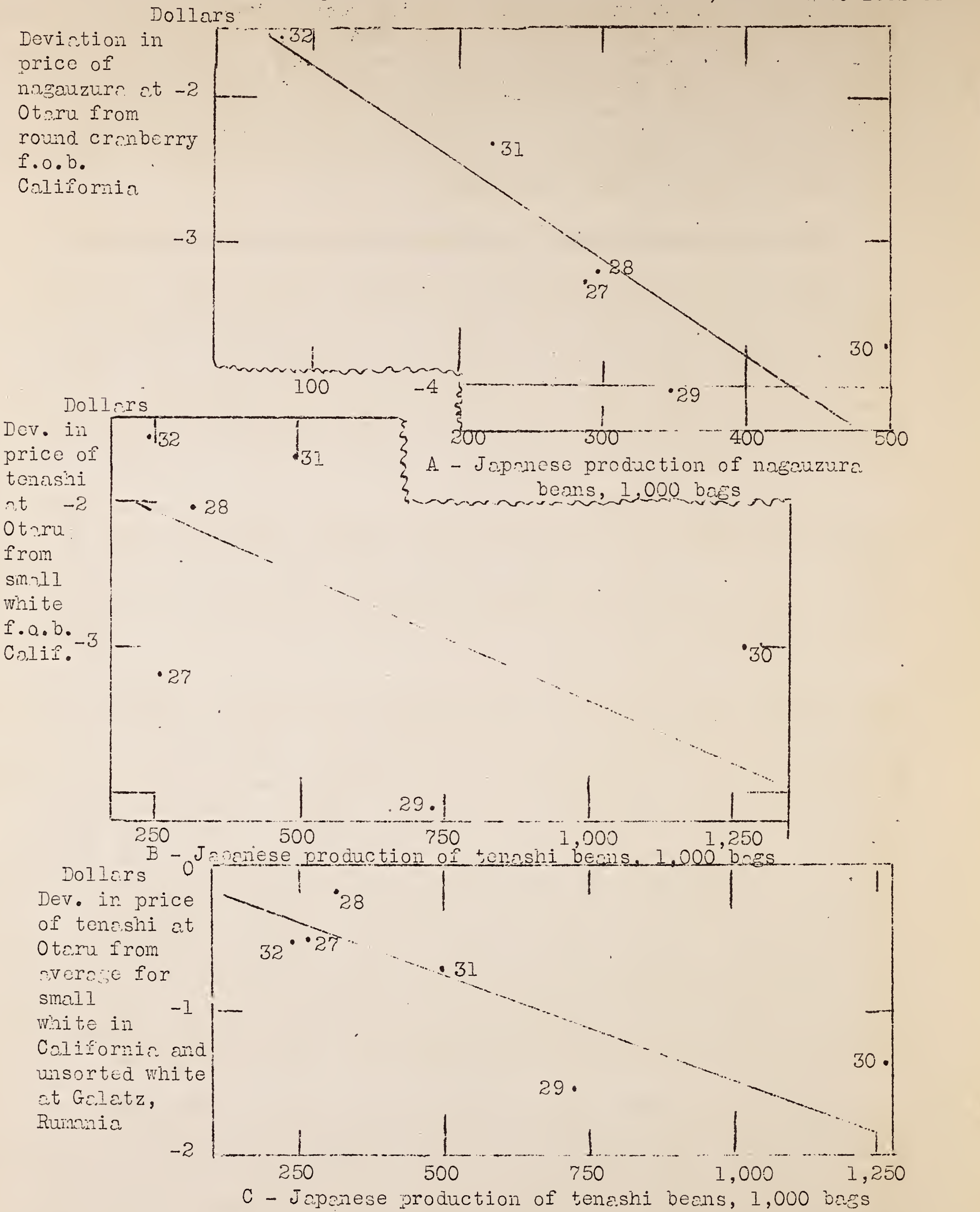
United States bean growers are primarily concerned with the extent to which Japanese beans compete with those of this country, what price will stimulate imports, and what factors govern the price which stimulates those imports. Price data and other data are not available for a long enough period to give a basis for a reliable answer to these questions. They do, however, suggest some working hypotheses, subject to correction as more information becomes available, and tend to confirm deductions of what would seem to be a reasonable explanation of the relationships existing.

In the period studied, the size of the crop of nagauzuras is fairly closely associated with the average annual margin between the price of nagauzuras in Japan and the price of round cranberries f.o.b. California shipping points, as shown in Part A of Figure 2. This suggests that the size of the Japanese crop is an important factor in determining the amount of the margin.Data on which Figure 2 is based are given in Table 7, page 15.

In the case of otenashis the association with the California price of small whites is not close, as shown in Part B of Figure 2. Figure 1 indicates that otenashi prices followed a course between the price of white beans in the United States and Rumanian beans in Europe over most of the period. Prices of Rumanian beans, cleaned basis, are not available for the full period shown here so the price unsorted was used instead. Figure 1 shows that while otenashis maintained a high level in comparison with United States beans in 1930-31 and 1931-32 they were lower than previously in relation to Rumanian beans. The relationship is also shown in Part C of Figure 2 in which Japanese production of otenashis is shown in comparison with the deviation of otenashi prices from the simple average of United States and Rumanian prices for corresponding periods. While such averages as those of California small white prices with Rumanian unsorted prices cover up too much to make the results of much value, the improvement in association between Japanese production and price margin in Part C of Figure 2, suggests that European prices are also an important factor in determining the price of otenashis.

The margin between prices of Japanese varieties at Otaru plus the United States import duty and the price of corresponding varieties in the United States is reflected in the amount of United States imports of Japanese beans, as shown in Table 5, page 12 . In 1929-30, when there was a wide margin between Japanese and United States prices, shipments to the United States were heavy for both otenashis and nagauzuras, while in 1931-32 when Japanese prices plus duty were above United States prices these shipments were nil for otenashis and practically nil for nagauzuras. One year, 1930-31, shows moderately heavy shipments in spite of narrow price margins. A closer association would doubtless be shown for that year if the shipments by

Figure 2.- Association between bean production in Japan and deviation in price per 100 pounds at Otaru from prices in California and Rumania, 1927-28 to 1932-33



There has been a fairly close association in the past five years between the size of the Japanese nagauzura crop and the annual average price margin between that class at Otaru and the price of round cranberries in California. In the case of tenashis the association between production and price margin from small whites is less marked. Part C suggests that European prices are also important in determining the price of tenashis.

varieties were available by months. Prices of otenashis in Japan were 43 to 73 cents lower than United States prices the first few months of the year while the latter part of the year they were higher than United States prices. For nagauzuras on the other hand the margin widened to $1.41 by mid-August. So it is probable that the heavy shipments of otenashis were made early in the season while later on probably all of the shipments were nagauzuras.

The above relationships should not be taken to indicate that the size of the Japanese crop of export varieties of beans is an important factor affecting the prices of the corresponding varieties in the United States. Other preliminary studies have indicated that Japanese tenashi supplies are only a minor factor in determining the price of small whites and not a major factor in determining the price of cranberries. Of course the production of export varieties of beans in Japan may be presumed to have some influence upon prices of beans in the United States.

Prepared in the Division of Statistical and Historical Research from statistical material on Japan supplied largely by Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai.

Table 2.- Exports of common beans, by variety, from Hokkaido and total exports from Japan, from crops harvested in 1924-1931

Year	Exports from Hokkaido							Total exports from Japan, year beginning Sept. 1
	Tenashi	Nagauzura	Chunaga	Shiromaru	Kintoki	Daifuku	Total six varieties	
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
1924	103	104	10	27	20	20	284	296
1925	152	187	9	1	4	2	355	341
1926	80	155	5	1/	1/	1	241	267
1927	178	214	9	1/	1	1	403	448
1928	219	185	82	6	17	2	511	514
1929	552	270	24	14	1	2	863	910
1930	712	291	2/ 6				3/1,009	976
1931	308	49					4/357	416

Exports from Hokkaido. Compiled from reports of the Hokkaido Government, Farm Products Inspection Bureau and supplementary statistics from the same source reported by Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai. Exports from all Japan from monthly returns of the foreign trade of Japan.

A bag is 100 pounds.

1/Less than 500 bags.

2/Preliminary.

3/Three varieties only.

4/Two varieties only.

Table 3.- Exports of tenashi and nagauzura beans from Hokkaido by country of destination, from crops harvested in 1924-1931

Class of bean and country of destination	Exports from crop harvested in 1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Tenashi:								
United States	73	90	46	160	107	355	282	0
Canada	12	49	32	14	21	24	3	0
Cuba	5	1	1	1	2	34	28	18
Europe	10	10	–	3	86	137	395	286
Other and undesignated	3	2	1	1/	3	2	4	4
Total ...	103	152	80	178	219	552	712	308
Nagauzura:								
United States	101	178	132	180	136	219	176	5
Cuba	3	4	7	9	1	36	23	0
Mexico	2/	2/	2/	0	0	0	49	4
Puerto Rico..	0	4	14	24	29	12	29	0
Europe	0	0	0	0	19	2	14	39
Other and undesignated	1/	1	2	1	1/	1	1/	1
Total ...	104	187	155	214	185	270	291	49

Exports from Hokkaido. Compiled from reports of the Hokkaido Government, Farm Products Inspection Bureau and supplementary statistics from the same source reported by Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai. Exports from all Japan from monthly returns of the foreign trade of Japan.
A bag is 100 pounds.
1/ Less than 500 bags. 2/ If any, included with other and undesignated.

Table 4.- Common beans: Exports by variety from Hokkaido to the United States and total United States imports from Japan, from crops harvested in 1924-1931

Year	Exports from Hokkaido to the United States							Total imports into the United States from Japan, year beginning Dec. 1 1/
	Tenashi	Nagauzura	Chunaga	Shiromaru	Kintoki	Daifuku	Total six varieties	
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
1924 ..	73	101	5	13	7	17	216	281
1925 ..	90	178	1	2/	2/	0	269	217
1926 ..	46	132	0	2/	0	0	178	237
1927 ..	160	180	2/	2/	2/	0	340	377
1928 ..	107	136	13	3	8	1	268	297
1929 ..	355	219	8	2/	2/	0	582	589
1930 ..	282	176	3/	3/	3/	3/	458	476
1931 ..	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	15

For source of exports from Hokkaido see Table 2. United States imports from Japan compiled from official records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

1/ New crop shipments from Japan usually do not begin to arrive in the United States until in December or later.

2/ Less than 500 bags.

3/ Not reported.

Table 5.- Exports of beans to the United States in comparison with deviations of price per 100 pounds for dry beans at Otaru plus United States import duty, from price at California, by variety, 1927-28 to 1932-33

Year beginning Sept. 1	Otenashi at Otaru: As Quoted	Otenashi at Otaru: Plus U.S. import duty	Small white, f.o.b. Calif.	Deviations of Otaru price, plus duty, from Calif. price	Exports to the United States: Otenashi beans
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	1,000 bags
1927-28	5.29	7.04	8.49	- 1.45	160
1928-29	7.02	8.77	9.07	- .30	107
1929-30	3.75	1/ 5.77	7.86	- 2.09	355
1930-31	1.67	4.67	4.69	2/ - .02	282
1931-32	1.03	4.03	2.73	+ 1.30	0
1932-33 3/..	(1.15)	(4.15)	2.73	(+ 1.42)	
	Nagauzura at Otaru: As Quoted	Nagauzura at Otaru: Plus U.S. import duty	Round cranberry f.o.b. Calif.	Deviations of Otaru price plus duty from Calif. price	Nagauzura beans
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	1,000 bags
1927-28	3.77	5.52	7.07	- 1.55	180
1928-29	4.77	6.52	8.00	- 1.48	136
1929-30	3.25	1/ 5.27	7.30	- 2.03	219
1930-31	1.87	4.87	5.62	2/ - .75	176
1931-32	1.33	4.33	3.66	+ .67	5
1932-33 3/..	(1.50)	(4.50)	3.12	(+ 1.38)	

Compiled as follows:

Prices at Otaru, from reports of Owen L. Dawson and Paul F. Steintorf. See Table 5. (Page 12). Prices at California from California Fruit News United States import duty $1.75 per 100 pounds to June 18, 1930, $3.00 per 100 pounds thereafter.

Prices at Otaru for 1927-28 represent average of 7 months, 1928-29 for 10 months, and 1929-30 for 11 months. For comparison average prices at California were computed for the corresponding months.

1/ Duty for 1929-30 prorated as $2.02 - $1.75 to June 18 and $3.00 to August 31.

2/ From September through December the Japanese price of Otenashis plus duty was 43 to 73 cents below the California price while from March to the end of the season, the Otenashi price plus duty was higher than the price of small whites. Prices of Nagauzuras plus duty fell in relation to round cranberries toward the end of the season to a margin of $1.41 by August. It is probable therefore, that the shipments of Otenashis were made early in the season, and that late in the season nearly all of our imports from Japan were Nagauzuras.

3/ For description of months covered by these prices, see Table 6, pages 13 and 14.

Table 6.- Average price of specified varieties of dry beans, per 100 pounds, by months, Otaru, January 1927 -28 to December 1932-33

Year and month	White beans			Colored beans		
	Otenshi, OK (a little better grade)	Shiromaru, 2 d grade	Daifuku, 2 d grade	Nagauzura, H.P. (hand picked grade)	Chunaga, 3 d grade	Kintoki, 3 d grade
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1927-28						
Jan.....	3.38	4.86	5.52	3.26	2.44	2.95
Feb.....	4.65	4.93	5.60	3.91	2.79	3.27
Mar.....	-	5.35	5.67	3.67	2.85	3.07
Apr.....	6.51	6.36	6.53	3.85	3.12	3.19
May.....	5.83	6.41	6.92	3.57	2.85	2.80
June....	5.89	6.48	6.96	3.56	2.84	2.54
July....	5.67	6.42	7.44	4.26	3.09	2.64
Aug.....	5.08	- - -	- - -	4.08	2.97	2.53
Av....	1/ 5.29	1/ 5.83	1/ 6.38	2/ 3.77	2/ 2.87	2/ 2.87
1928-29						
Sept....	5.60	5.62	6.21	- - -	3.29	3.82
Oct.....	5.76	5.72	5.96	4.24	3.52	3.83
Nov.....	6.56	6.20	6.75	4.46	3.54	3.56
Dec.....	7.26	6.65	7.72	5.02	3.92	3.91
Jan.....	8.15	6.54	8.37	5.31	4.18	4.22
Feb.....	8.18	7.08	7.55	5.16	3.83	4.03
Mar.....	8.33	7.20	8.01	4.83	3.93	4.12
Apr.....	7.69	7.77	8.61	4.39	4.11	4.52
May.....	6.71	8.79	9.30	4.75	4.41	5.75
June....	- - -	- - -	7.87	5.06	3.96	4.98
July....	5.91	- - -	6.63	- - -	4.09	5.53
Aug.....	- - -	- - -	6.02	4.52	- - -	- - -
Av....	3/ 7.02	4/ 6.84	7.42	3/ 4.77	5/ 3.89	1/ 4.39
1929-30						
Sept....	- - -	- - -	6.37	- - -	3.40	4.72
Oct.....	4.74	4.91	6.14	4.06	2.85	3.83
Nov.....	4.37	4.87	5.14	3.64	2.64	3.24
Dec.....	3.84	4.62	4.61	3.57	2.36	2.86
Jan.....	4.08	4.82	4.74	3.33	2.45	3.34
Feb.....	4.12	5.16	5.00	3.22	2.65	3.46
Mar.....	3.78	4.94	4.58	2.97	2.54	3.28
Apr.....	3.46	3.84	3.44	2.95	- - -	3.10
May.....	3.30	3.62	3.15	2.88	2.50	2.90
June ...	3.31	3.11	3.06	3.12	2.56	2.74
July....	2.98	2.87	2.97	3.00	2.76	2.62
Aug.....	3.32	2.77	2.57	3.02	2.67	3.00
Av....	5/ 3.75	5/ 4.14	4.31	5/ 3.25	5/ 2.67	3.26

Continued -

Table 6.- Average price of specified varieties of dry beans, per 100 pounds, by months, Otaru, January 1927-28 to December 1932-33 Cont'd

Year and month	White beans: Otenshi, OK (a little better grade)	White beans: Shiromaru, 2 d grade	White beans: Daifuku, 2 d grade	Colored beans: Nagauzura, H.P. (hand picked grade)	Colored beans: Chunaga, 3 d grade	Colored beans: Kintoki, 3 d grade
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1930-31						
Sept.....	3.58	3.46	2.26	3.16	2.47	2.73
Oct.....	2.09	2.57	2.55	2.23	1.83	2.58
Nov.....	1.77	2.57	2.86	1.91	1.59	2.66
Dec.....	1.50	2.39	2.84	1.73	1.49	2.30
Jan.....	1.54	2.10	2.81	2.07	1.47	2.10
Feb.....	1.45	2.00	2.48	2.19	1.47	2.05
Mar.....	1.44	2.01	2.17	2.02	1.48	2.07
Apr.....	1.32	1.82	1.96	1.84	1.48	2.04
May.....	1.30	1.72	2.08	1.52	1.51	2.03
June....	1.29	1.61	2.15	1.31	1.50	2.03
July....	1.37	2.13	2.55	1.33	1.78	2.82
Aug.....	1.34	2.20	2.60	1.17	1.83	3.23
Av....	1.67	2.22	2.44	1.87	1.66	2.39
1931-32						
Sept....	1.19	1.98	2.30	1.07	1.61	3.05
Oct.....	1.09	6/ 3.18	4.04	1.07	1.66	2.56
Nov.....	6/ 1.53	6/ 3.35	6/ 3.65	6/ 1.80	6/ 1.76	6/ 2.47
Dec.....	6/ 1.18	6/ 3.37	6/ 5.11	6/ 1.57	6/ 1.81	6/ 2.24
Jan.....	6/ 1.11	6/ 3.26	6/ 5.37	6/ 1.49	6/ 1.80	6/ 1.98
Feb.....	6/ 1.06	6/ 3.16	6/ 4.88	6/ 1.41	6/ 1.77	6/ 2.13
Mar.....	6/ .98	6/ 2.95	6/ 4.22	6/ 1.42	6/ 1.68	6/ 2.03
Apr.....	6/ .91	6/ 3.22	6/ 3.98	6/ 1.38	6/ 1.62	6/ 1.92
May.....	6/ .88	6/ 3.56	6/ 4.34	6/ 1.34		6/ 2.02
June....	6/ .82	6/ 2.97	6/ 3.68	6/ 1.18		6/ 1.78
July....	6/ .78	6/ 1.88	6/ 2.73	6/ .92		6/ 1.26
Aug.....	6/ .82	6/ 1.76	6/ 2.49	- - -		6/ 1.18
Av....	1.03	2.89	3.90	5/ 1.33	2/ 1.71	2.05
1932-33						
Sept....	6/ 1.00	7/8/2.83	6/8/3.70	- - -	- - -	6/8/2.16
Oct.....	9/ .87			9/ 1.33	9/ 1.37	
Nov.....						
Dec.....	9/ 1.59			9/ 1.68	9/ 1.81	

Quotations of prices (exwarehouse) at Otaru, Jan. 1928-Feb.1932, and at Sappor Mar. 1932-Sept. 1932, were supplied by Agricultural Commissioner Owen L. Dawson, Shanghai. Conversions from yen per picul at current rates of exchange except as otherwise noted.

1/ Average of 7 months. 2/ Average of 8 months. 3/ Average of 10 months. 4/ Average of 9 months. 5/ Average of 11 months. 6/ Average of 1st and 15th of month. 7/ Fifteenth of month. 8/ New crop. 9/ October and December 1932 prices are f.o.b. Otaru, reported by Paul F. Steintorf, Trade Commissioner, Tokyo, in reports of Oct. 18, 1932, and Jan. 13, 1933. Date to which prices refer is not given but described as "latest available Quotations."

Table 7.- Deviation of price per 100 pounds for dry beans at Otaru, California, and Rumania, and production in Hokkaido, by variety 1927-28 to 1932-33

Year beginning Sept.1	Otenashi at Otaru	Small white f.o.b. Calif.	Rumanian unsorted white at Galatz	Average of small white Calif and Rumania	Deviations of otenashi from Small white, Calif.	Deviations of otenashi from Average of small white, Calif. and Rumania	Production in Hokkaido Otenashi beans
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	1,000 bags
1927-28	5.29	8.49	3.15	5.82	-3.20	- .53	258
1928-29	7.02	9.07	5.37	7.22	-2.05	- .20	315
1929-30	3.75	7.86	2.78	5.32	-4.11	-1.57	727
1930-31	1.67	4.69	1.42	3.06	-3.02	-1.39	1,261
1931-32	1.03	2.73	.76	1.74	-1.70	- .71	496
1932-33	1/ 1.15	2/ 2.73	3/ .66	1.70	-1.58	- .55	237

	Nagauzura at Otaru	Round cranberry, f.o.b. Calif.	Deviations of nagauzura from round cranberry	Nagauzura beans
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	1,000 bags
1927-28	3.77	7.07	- 3.30	286
1928-29	4.77	8.00	- 3.23	295
1929-30	3.25	7.30	- 4.05	346
1930-31	1.87	5.62	- 3.75	497
1931-32	1.33	3.66	- 2.33	221
1932-33	4/ 1.50	5/ 3.12	- 1.62	78

Compiled as follows:

Prices at Otaru, from reports of Owen L. Dawson and Paul F. Steintorf. See table 6, page 13.

Prices at California from California Fruit News. Prices at Galatz from Consular Service at Bucharest.

Prices at Otaru for 1927-28 represent average of 7 months, 1928-29 for 10 months, and 1929-30 for 11 months. For comparison, average prices at California and at Galatz were computed for the corresponding months.

1/ Average of September and two undated quotations converted at October and December exchange rates respectively.

2/ Average of September, October and December.

3/ Average of September, October and November.

4/ Average of two undated quotations converted at October and December exchange rates respectively.

5/ Average of October and December.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

B-13 August 8, 1933

WORLD DRY BEAN PROSPECTS a/

Summary

The outlook for beans in the United States is for some improvement over the conditions of the past year. Early reports indicate a harvest in this country no larger than that a year ago, and there is a possibility of reduced carry-over.

Early reports of acreage and condition do not point to any net increase in supplies in important foreign surplus producing regions, but later growing conditions may change the outlook materially. Prospective increases in production in Chile and Japan and in carry-over in Rumania seem to be at least offset by prospective decreases in production in the Danube Basin and carry-over in Japan.

There has been a rising trend in bean prices in this country from low points in January and February. By June prices of practically all classes were higher than they were last September and there were further rises in July. Both actual prices and farm purchasing power of all the more important classes of beans in June were still below the average for the 5 years immediately preceding the war with the exception of limas and cranberries.

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a/ Figures in this report relating to quantities are in terms of 100 pound bags. Statements on foreign beans other than those from official publications of the various countries are based on reports of Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai, former Assistant Agricultural Commissioner L. D. Mallory at Marseille, Consul General Harold D. Clum at Bucharest, Consul William H. Beach at Antwerp, Vice Consuls Camden L. McLain at Santiago and Maurice Pasquet at Paris, and Trade Commissioner Paul Steintorf at Tokyo, and Vice Consul William P. Cochran, at Mexico City.

Since April average prices of choice grades of all the more important classes were above the amount of the import duty of $3.00 per 100 pounds with the exception of pea beans and small reds, the pea beans were above in May and July, while the price of small reds the latter part of July was still below the amount of the import duty. The rise in prices in the United States was accompanied by an increase in imports in April, May and June, with Chile an increasingly important source while Europe was practically unrepresented.

Foreign prices in terms of United States currency have been rising somewhat recently with the fall in dollar exchange and in June there has been some rise in prices at Marseille and Antwerp when expressed in terms of the currency of those countries.

Domestic Supplies

Acreage of beans in the United States is shown by the July estimate of 1,615,000 acres to be about 12 percent above the 1932 acreage, with Michigan the only important state showing a decrease. Conditions up to the first of July, however, had not been favorable and the prospect was for a crop of only 10,154,000 bags, about equal to the 1932 harvest of 10,164,000 bags. Later weather is important in the development of the crop and the crop report to be issued August 10 may show considerable change in the prospect. The July report showed a prospective decrease of over 25 percent in the Michigan-New York total crop, the decrease being entirely in Michigan, and increase of nearly 40 percent in the Great Northern States, an increase of about two-thirds in the pinto states, and less than 10 percent in California. Standard lima acreage in California is reported to be about 12 percent greater than last year and baby lima about 40 percent greater.

It is now near enough the end of the season for stocks in California warehouses to give a fair idea of the size of the California warehouse carry-over at the end of the season. Stocks in California warehouses on July 1 were only 529,000 bags, only a little over half as large as stocks on the same date last year, and just about equal to the average of 521,000 on that date for the past 5 years. Stocks are quite unevenly distributed among the various classes. Standard lima stocks of 125,000 bags are about a quarter less than a year ago but more than 40 percent above the 5-year average. Baby limas stocks of 123,000 bags are little more than half as large as a year ago, but nearly 50 percent above the average. Stocks of small whites are only 55,000 bags which is little more than a third as large as last year and is about a third below the 5-year average. The 85,000 bag stock of pinks is about the same as a year earlier and only slightly larger than the average. Blackeye stocks of 93,000 bags are small in comparison with the 235,000 bags held a year ago and are also a little smaller than the 5-year average. Cranberry stocks are only 7,000 bags compared with 31,000 a year earlier, but are larger than in any other of the past 5 years. Small reds are the only class for which stocks this July are significantly larger than last year. Stocks of this class are nearly 16,000 bags compared with 4,500 last year, but well below the 5-year average of 27,000 bags.

For the rest of the United States there is little basis for an accurate appraisal of supplies still remaining. Figures on shipments from producing regions are much more nearly complete this year than in preceding seasons, but for this reason give little basis for comparison with earlier years. Insofar as can be judged from the figures they indicate a normal or heavier than normal movement from producing regions in comparison with the size of the crop for the United States as a whole, a heavy shipment compared to the size of the crop for Michigan and New York, and a somewhat light movement from the Great Northern region.

Total rail shipments including l.c.l. movement from September 1 through June reached over 6,900,000 bags, or about 68 percent of the crop, in addition to which 178,000 bags were shipped by river in California. There are reports of further shipments by truck without subsequent rail haul from Michigan and the pinto producing states from September through April reaching 609,000 bags, bringing the total reported shipments to 76 percent of the crop. There has probably been a heavy truck movement in California and New York also, and the improving prices in May may have stimulated truck movement in May and June. Last year rail shipments exclusive of l.c.l. movement from September through June reached 15,354 cars which at 400 to 600 bags to the car would be between 6,140,000 and 9,210,000 bags, or roughly between 50 and 70 percent of the crop. This range can probably be safely narrowed to between 55 and 65 percent. River shipments in California, not included, reached nearly 258,000 bags.

In view of the much reduced stocks in California compared with a year earlier, indications of a probable heavy movement of the crop from Michigan and New York and reduced production last year in the Rocky Mountain regions, it seems probable that stocks by the close of the year will be significantly less than a year earlier; there is nothing at present, however, to indicate that old crop supplies will be cleaned up by then. It is probable that a hand-to-mouth buying policy has resulted in a minimum supply in retailers' and wholesale grocers' hands both last year and this.

Relation of Trade to Supplies

Stocks in continental United States have been reduced somewhat this season by a heavier shipment to Puerto Rico, Hawaii and Alaska than last year, which was only partly offset by an increase in takings from foreign countries. The net movement for continental United States in the 10-month period September through June was a net outward movement of 411,000 bags this year, an increase of 56,000 bags over the 355,000 bags net outward movement in that period of 1931-32. Shipments to non-contiguous lands of the United States reached 390,000 bags this season compared with 291,000 bags in the corresponding period last season. Trade with foreign countries has shown a net export of only 21,000 bags in the first 10 months this season compared with 64,000 bags in those months of 1931-32. Domestic exports reached 70,000 bags so far this season compared with 75,000 in that period last season, while imports from foreign countries, less reexports of foreign beans reached 49,000 bags this season compared with only 11,000 bags last season. Imports less reexports in each of the last 3 months April - June, have been heavier than in any preceding month since July 1931 with the single exception of September 1932. Imports the past 3 months have doubtless been stimulated somewhat by increasing prices in this country.

Stocks of foreign dry beans in bonded warehouses the end of May were only 91,000 bags compared with 128,000 a year earlier and 269,000 the end of May 1931.

The Orient has been the most important source of imports this season, with Hong Kong an increasingly important origin. Part of the imports from Hong Kong are undoubtedly mung beans which are used for consumption as bean sprouts and do not compete with beans grown in this country. It is known that mung beans are shipped in quantity from Hong Kong but it is not known what part of the receipts from Hong Kong by this country are of that class.

Europe has not been an important source of bean imports since last October and in June our imports from Europe were practically nil. The plentiful supply of white beans in this country has virtually closed it as a market for competing classes from Europe.

Chile has been an important source of our imports of competing bean classes. Last September imports from Chile amounted to half of our total imports. After that they dwindled as the old crop supplies there became exhausted, but since March they have been picking up again and in June were nearly half of our total imports. Red kidneys are usually an important class sent from Chile to the United States, but some white beans and cranberries also usually figure in our imports. Definite figures on the importance of the various classes are not available.

Imports from Mexico have been far exceeding our exports to that country again this season, the imports being of other classes than blackeyes.

Table 1.- Dry beans: Imports into the United States by countries of origin, reexports, domestic exports, net foreign trade and shipments to non-contiguous territory, years beginning September 1, 1927-28 to 1931-32, and September - June, 1930-31 to 1932-33

Country	Year beginning Sept. 1					Sept.-June		
	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
IMPORTS								
Europe, 11 countries	710	144	468	141	16	138	13	11
Asia, 4 countries	412	324	634	508	54	495	50	33
Mexico 1/	65	41	16	13	16	13	16	10
Cuba 1/	1	1	10	13	2	12	1	1
South America, 3 countries	194	203	149	87	26	73	18	20
Madagascar	0	26	22	0	0	0	0	0
Other	101	44	160	25	1	22	1	3
Total imports	1,483	783	1,459	787	115	753	99	78
REEXPORTS OF FOREIGN BEANS	158	191	154	105	98	86	88	29
BALANCE OF FOREIGN BEANS RETAINED IN UNITED STATES	1,325	592	1,305	682	17	667	11	49
DOMESTIC EXPORTS								
Cuba	177	97	78	39	30	31	25	28
Mexico	7	10	22	73	6	71	5	2
Nicaragua	11	7	7	18	11	15	10	5
Panama	8	7	9	11	9	9	7	9
Canada	14	12	14	8	7	8	6	5
All other	25	38	40	25	26	19	22	21
Total domestic exports	242	171	170	174	89	153	75	70
NET IMPORTS	1,083	421	1,135	508	2/-72	514	2/-64	2/-21
SHIPMENTS TO NON-CONTIGUOUS U.S. TERRITORY 3/	275	283	189	225	328	191	291	390
Net movement 4/	+ 808	+138	+946	+283	-400	+323	-355	-411

Division of Statistical and Historical Research.
Compiled from records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

1/ Imports include blackeyes through June 18, 1930. From June 19 through August 30, 1930; 4,000 bags were imported from Cuba and 2,000 from Mexico. In the year 1930-31, 15,000 bags were imported from Cuba and 1,000 from Mexico. In 1931-32, 1,000 bags were imported from Mexico. Since then none are reported.

2/ Net exports.

3/ Puerto Rico, Alaska, and Hawaii.

4/ Net inward movement indicated by (+), outward movement by (-)

Foreign New Season Supplies

Foreign bean supplies have had little direct effect on the domestic market for United States classes of beans the past year or two since domestic prices of most classes have been near or below the amount of our import duty. The greatest effect has probably been in limiting the foreign market for our own surplus through the ample supplies in many of the surplus producing countries. In the coming season if domestic prices should go significantly above the $3.00 per 100 pounds duty on imports it is probable that the demand for domestic beans will also be affected by pressure of any surplus supplies in foreign surplus producing regions, especially the Danube region, Japan and Chile. This has already been demonstrated by the increase in imports the past 3 months.

Early reports from Rumania, Japan and Chile tend to indicate a reduction in production in Rumania, which probably extends to other Danube bean producing countries, but increased production in Japan and Chile. On the other hand there is prospect of a reduced carry-over in Japan and Chile as against an increase in carry-over in Rumania. While few definite figures are available the prospect seems to be more probable for a reduction rather than an increase in total supplies in the important surplus producing countries the coming season. If some trade reports current in Europe turn out to be accurate there may be a definite shortage there, which would create a European market for Japanese and Chilean surpluses, but further confirmation of these reports is needed. There is also ample opportunity for later weather to alter conditions materially.

Official estimates of acreage in Rumania are still lacking but the expectation in that country is for a decrease in acreage. Growing conditions are also reported to be unfavorable due partly to cold, wet weather in May, which made some reseeding necessary and delayed growth on other fields. Trade reports in some European importing centers are mentioning a possible decrease of 40 percent in acreage in the Danube region, which with average yields would give a harvest lower than in any years since 1927 and 1928. There may well be some exaggeration in this estimate of acreage reduction. An additional indication of the probable bean acreage is to be had in the estimate of acreage sown to corn. In the past 11 years there has been some association, although not a close one, between year to year changes in corn acreage and changes in acreage of cornfield beans. A reduction this year in corn acreage suggests a reduction of about 5 percent in cornfield beans from the 2,283,000 acres reported for 1932. Beans grown alone in 1932 were placed at 297,000 acres. Average yields on a total acreage 5 percent below last year's would give a harvest smaller than either of the 2 past years, but larger than any other year since 1925. Even with a 40 percent reduction in acreage and average yields there would probably be some beans available for export, judging by the situation in 1927-28 and 1928-29 when smaller harvests were followed by exports. Supplies for the new season will probably be increased by a larger carry-over than a year earlier unless there has been a material increase in domestic consumption. Production in 1932 at 7,712,000 bags was 428,000 bags larger than the large crop of 1931, and exports of 2,210,000 bags from September through May, while large, were 630,000 bags less than for the same period a year earlier pointing to a carry-over about 1,000,000 bags larger than a year ago.

No indication is available of the prospect for the coming crop in Italy, France and England, all of which countries draw upon the surplus from the Danube, especially in years of short domestic crops. Stocks of old crop beans of about 65,000 bags in Marseille the end of June were nearly twice as large as a year earlier but the increase seems to be at least partly a feature of the heavy import trade this season following the short 1932 bean crop in France rather than a piling-up of stocks not in demand. Stocks at Antwerp of 77,000 bags the end of June were also somewhat larger than a year earlier, apparently also a feature of a heavier trade movement.

Early prospects in Japan point to a material increase in bean production over the small crop of 1932. Acreage of all beans in Hokkaido, the commercial bean producing province of Japan, is placed at 207,800 acres for the 1933 harvest, an increase of 22,400 acres over the 185,398 acres reported for 1932, which was close to the average for the past 5 years. Acreage of tenashi beans, which compete with large and small whites, is placed at 53,000 acres compared with 33,076 acres in 1932, and nagauzuras, or long cranberries, at only 8,300 acres compared with 20,112 acres in 1932. These two are the only Japanese classes that are usually imported to the United States in commercial quantities. There has been an increase in acreage of kintokis and daifukus which do not compete keenly with United States varieties. Crop prospects up to near the end of July were favorable, suggesting probable yields at least as good as the average in recent years whereas last year yields of most classes were little more than half of average and nagauzuras were less than half of average. Average yields on the reported acreage would give a harvest of all beans nearly twice as large as the small 1932 crop of 1,179,000 bags, and larger than in any other recent year except 1930. Average yields of tenashis on the reported acreage would give a harvest nearly three times as large as the 237,000 bags harvested in 1932 and a little above the average for the past 5 years. The nagauzura harvest with average yields would be a little larger than last year's unusually small crop but small in comparison with any other recent year. Stocks of old crop tenashi beans still remaining in Hokkaido the end of May were only 120,000 bags compared with 256,000 a year earlier, and nagauzuras were only 3,500 bags compared with 20,000 a year earlier. It seems probable that carry-over will be a minimum.

No official estimate by the Chilean Department of Agriculture is available for the size of the crop in Chile now coming on the market but various reports indicate an increase above the 1,408,000 bags officially reported for a year earlier. Acreage is placed at 185,000 acres, an increase of 7 percent above that a year earlier. Growing conditions are said to have been favorable throughout the season and the quality of the beans is said to be much superior to that of the previous crop. Trade opinion places the new crop well above last year's harvest. The Subsecretariat of Commerce estimates exportable surplus at 810,000 bags on the basis of an estimate of production of 1,763,000 bags. This figure is larger than any preceding harvest at least since 1921-22. Carry-over is believed to have been small again this year. It is stated that there has been a heavy demand for beans in Chile the past season to replace a shortage of wheat. There is an increase in wheat production this season and thus little likelihood of a similar increased demand for beans this year. Planting conditions in many producing regions of Mexico were reported to be good in July.

A considerable part of the large Rumanian surplus has been absorbed again this year by Italy, France and the United Kingdom. Italy, with a large 1932 crop has not been taking as large a quantity as in 1931-32 but imports were larger than in other recent years. France, following a much reduced 1932 crop, took only slightly greater receipts at Marseille than a year earlier, but of these receipts a larger proportion was doubtless for domestic consumption than usual. The United Kingdom also took more beans so far this season than for that period a year earlier although 1932 production was about equal to that of 1931.

Table 2.- Japan: Acreage of beans by varieties in Hokkaido, average 1928-1932 annual, 1929-1933

Item	Av. 1928-1932	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933 Prel.
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Tenashi -						
(Large and small white)	51,391	57,232	86,354	54,247	33,076	53,000
Nagauzura -						
(Long cranberry)........	26,813	26,764	35,851	28,639	20,112	8,500
Chunaga - (Medium long						
mottled red)...........	47,435	48,182	46,387	47,019	52,865	50,000
Kintoki -						
(A red bean)........ ...	35,195	27,820	29,281	34,810	57,833	73,000
Daifuku -						
(Large flat bean).......	9,899	10,457	10,152	9,039	9,810	11,500
Shiromaru -						
(Marrow type)..........	2,549	2,632	2,469	2,357	2,029)	12,000
Other	9,533	9,853	9,926	9,807	9,673)	
Total...........	182,315	182,930	220,920	185,916	185,398	207,800

Compiled from reports of the Hokkaido Government. Farm Products Inspection Bureau.

Table 3.-Foreign trade in dry beans for specified countries, annual 1929-30 to 1931-32, stated periods 1930-31 to 1932-33

Country and movement	Year beginning Sept. 1 1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	From Sept. 1 Through	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags		1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
United States, net imports 1/	1,135	508	2/ - 72	June	3/ 514	2/ - 64	2/ - 21
Rumania, exports	1,185	1,264	3,154	May	875	2,840	4/2,210
Bulgaria, exports	269	388	421	Mar.	332	343	498
Hungary, exports	474	182	5/ (145)				
Yugoslavia, exports	536	537	134				
Italy, imports	785	665	2,294	Apr.	529	1,936	1,059
exports	108	82	36	"	69	21	117
France, seaborne receipts at Marseille 6/	7/	7/	679	June	7/	568	733
Belgium, imports	203	254	538	May	187	469	490
exports	41	170	370	"	150	333	287
United Kingdom, general imports	1,426	736	1,165	June	628	1,125	1,296
re-exports	131	19	20	"	17	16	13
Japan, exports	910	976	416	May	838	243	63
Chile, exports	598	371	221	Dec.	117	84	39

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. Compiled from official sources and reports of the Foreign Agricultural and Consular Service.

1/ Excludes shipment to non-contiguous territory. See Table 1, page 5 for this movement. 2/ Net exports. 3/ Larger than net import for entire year because of heavy exports and reexports in July and August. 4/ Preliminary for May. 5/ Through April only. 6/ Including receipts in bond for cleaning, grading and reexport, nearly all from the Danubian countries. 7/ Not available.

Prices

Prices of all of the more important classes of dry beans have been rising in recent months from a low point which was reached for most classes in January or February. Pinto prices have been rising since November.

Some of the advance in prices has been coincident with a rise in average prices of goods farmers must buy and thus does not represent an increase in the purchasing power of beans, but bean prices have been rising more rapidly than the average of prices of goods bought by farmers. Part of this rise may be attributed to dwindling bean stocks, but probably part of the rise was a reaction from the unusually low levels reached in January and February.

In February the farm purchasing power per bag of all important classes of dry beans was well below the pre-war average, ranging from as low as 44 percent of pre-war for small reds at San Francisco to a high of 74 percent of pre-war for cranberry beans in that market.

By June prices and purchasing power of all classes had risen, but only two classes, limas and cranberries, rose to more than the pre-war purchasing power. The farm purchasing power of a bag of pea beans at New York rose from 45 percent of pre-war in February to 70 percent in June, red kidneys at New York from 52 to 89 percent, and marrows from 54 to 62 percent. For western beans, on the basis of prices f. o. b. California shipping points, farm purchasing power of standard limas rose from 69 percent pre-war in February to 113.5 percent in June, cranberries from 74 to 108 percent, small whites from 54 to 92 percent, pinks from 56 to 87 percent, small reds from 44 to 51.5 percent and blackeyes from 61 to 83 percent. For great northerns, pintos and baby limas, grown commercially only in more recent years, no similar comparison with pre-war is available. Great northern prices had been advancing more rapidly than pea beans until July when pea bean prices had overtaken great northerns.

Prices in European markets when expressed in terms of United States currency have been rising somewhat with prices in this country. There has also been some rise during June in prices at Antwerp, Marseille and Paris not associated with dollar exchange. At Antwerp offerings from producing countries were scarce in June while the demand in that country was good. Orders for beans at Antwerp from other countries were also reported to be satisfactory.

Table 4.-Prices and farm purchasing power of specified classes of dry beans, per 100 pounds, 1909-1933

Year and month	New York, wholesale, choice: Pea bean	New York, wholesale, choice: Red kidney	New York, wholesale, choice: Marrow 2/	Chicago, l.c.l. to local trade 1/: Great northern	Chicago, l.c.l. to local trade 1/: Pinto	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Small white	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Standard lima	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Pink	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Small red	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Cranberry	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Black eye
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
	Actual prices										
Av. Aug. 1909-July 1914	4.02	5.20	5.04	---	---	4.46	3/5.17	4.08	4/4.99	5/4.44	4.60
Year beginning Sept. 1:											
1928-29	10.26	8.62	6/10.16	9.28	7.31	7/9.13	12.32	6.66	5.57	8.15	8/9.58
1929-30	7.27	10.10	7/ 9.41	7.23	6.30	7/7.84	11.70	5.91	5.01	7.35	8.48
1930-31	5.51	8.87	5.60	5.04	9/4.54	4.70	6.83	3.90	3.03	5.62	5.39
1931-32	2.99	7/3.03	3.30	3.24	3.04	2.73	4.32	2.99	2.99	3.66	2.53
1932-33											
Sept.	2.67	3.10	3.23	2.91	2.97	2.99	4.92	3.28	2.85	3.13	3.22
Oct.	2.25	3.25	2.92	2.75	2.94	2.73	4.82	3.15	2.95	3.18	3.22
Nov.	2.01	2.96	2.81	2.52	2.82	2.60	3.92	2.72	2.72	3.18	3.00
Dec.	1.88	2.45	2.61	2.58	2.85	2.59	3.75	2.75	2.35	3.05	2.75
Jan.	1.84	2.72	2.57	2.47	2.92	2.36	3.95	2.55	2.30	3.23	2.95
Feb.	1.82	2.75	2.74	2.48	5.21	2.42	3.62	2.32	2.20	3.30	2.82
Mar.	2.10	3.03	3.04	2.70	3.44	2.44	3.82	2.50	2.22	3.22	3.00
Apr.	2.67	4.04	3.68	3.04	4.23	3.39	4.32	2.75	2.35	3.70	3.32
May	3.15	5.17	4.30	3.83	5.33	4.17	5.32	3.60	2.65	4.62	3.95
June	2.89	4.79	10/4.25	3.68	5.22	4.23	6.05	3.65	2.65	4.95	3.95
July 8	3.30	4.62	4.25	3.60	5.35	3.95	5.85	3.55	2.65	4.95	3.85
15	3.62	4.82	4.50	11/3.60	11/5.55	4.08	5.88	3.62	2.68	4.95	3.90
22	3.95	5.12	4.75	---	---	4.40	6.22	5.38	2.95	5.18	4.22
29	3.95	5.12	4.75	---	---	4.58	6.52	4.00	2.98	5.20	4.25

Continued -

Table 4.-Prices and farm purchasing power of specified classes of dry beans, per 100 pounds, 1909-1933 - Contd

Year and month	New York, wholesale, choice: Pea bean	New York, wholesale, choice: Red kidney	New York, wholesale, choice: Marrow 2/	Chicago, l.c.l. to local trade 1/: Great northern	Chicago, l.c.l. to local trade 1/: Pinto	San Francisco, f.o.b. shipping point: Small white	San Francisco: Standard lima	San Francisco: Pink	San Francisco: Small red	San Francisco: Cranberry	San Francisco: Black eye
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
	Farm purchasing power										
Av. Aug. 1909-July 1914	4.02	5.20	5.04			4.46	3/5.17	4.08	4/4.99	5/4.14	4.60
Year beginning Sept. 1:											
1928-29	6.73	5.65	6/6.66			7/5.99	8.08	4.37	3.65	5.34	8/6.28
1929-30	5.26	6.76	7/6.29			7/5.24	7.83	3.95	3.35	4.92	5.67
1930-31	4.09	6.58	4.15			3.49	5.07	2.89	2.25	4.17	2.51
1931-32	2.62	7/2.65	2.89			2.39	3.73	2.62	2.62	3.20	2.22
1932-33											
Sept.	2.52	2.92	3.05			2.82	4.64	3.09	2.69	3.00	3.04
Oct.	2.14	3.10	2.78			2.60	4.59	3.00	2.81	3.03	3.07
Nov.	1.93	2.85	2.70			2.50	3.77	2.62	2.62	3.06	2.88
Dec.	1.83	2.38	2.53			2.51	3.64	2.67	2.28	2.96	2.67
Jan.	1.80	2.67	2.52			2.31	3.87	2.50	2.25	3.22	2.89
Feb.	1.80	2.72	2.71			2.40	3.58	2.30	2.18	3.27	2.79
Mar.	2.10	3.03	3.04			2.44	3.82	2.50	2.22	3.22	3.00
Apr.	2.64	4.00	3.64			3.26	4.28	2.72	2.33	3.63	3.29
May	3.09	5.07	4.22			4.09	5.22	3.53	2.60	4.53	3.87
June	2.81	4.65	10/3.13			4.11	5.87	3.54	2.57	4.81	3.83

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. New York prices of pea beans and marrows for the pre-war period were compiled from bulletin 532 of Cornell University Experiment Station, "Production and Marketing of Field Beans in New York", by H. N. Young, December 1931, pages 161-167. Lima prices, pre-war and all New York prices post-war are averages of daily prices compiled from Producers' Price Current. Chicago prices are averages of daily prices from the Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin. Small white prices at San Francisco are averages of daily prices taken from the San Francisco Commercial News. Other San Francisco prices are based on one price reported the middle of the month as quoted in the California Fruit News.

Purchasing power of beans is computed by dividing the price as reported in this table by the index of average retail prices of commodities bought by farmers in the corresponding periods as published in the mimeographed report "Index Numbers of prices paid by Farmers for Commodities bought 1910-1932", put out by this Bureau, June 1933, and office records for later periods. 1/ This price in earlier years was described as the price l.c.l. to the local trade. Later reports describe it as in car lots to wholesalers. 2/ Whenever available the price of medium kidneys was used. 3/ Average 58 months. 4/ Average 59 months. 5/ Average 56 months. 6/ Average 6 months. 7/ Average 11 months. 8/ Average 10 months. 9/ Average 8 months. 10/ Including price of jumbos beginning June 26. 11/ July 11.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

B-6

March 11, 1932

WORLD DRY BEAN PROSPECTS a/

Summary

Bean prices are below the pre-war level, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Present prices at New York are either below the amount of the import duty or so near it as to practically shut out imports of foreign beans for consumption. In the case of white beans and red kidneys the domestic price probably could be increased significantly without meeting much competition from foreign beans. Prices of cranberries, pinks and limas are nearer the level of effective competition from foreign beans. At present imports for consumption are almost nil, but exports are also smaller than usual.

Supplies of foreign white beans in Europe and Japan are believed to be smaller than a year ago, but are ample to permit imports should the price rise much above the duty plus transportation costs. An outlet for some of the large Rumanian surplus has been found in Italy and Germany. There appears to be some surplus of cranberries in Japan also, while it is probable that Italian red kidneys are comparatively scarce. Stocks in Chile are probably equal to or greater than the small stocks a year ago and there is a prospect of increased production there in the crop now being harvested which will offer competition especially with domestic cranberry beans.

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a/ Figures in this report relating to quantities are reported in terms of 100 pound bags.
Statements on foreign beans other than those derived from official publications of the various countries are based on reports of Agricultural Commissioner O.L. Dawson at Shanghai, Agricultural Attaché L.G. Michael at Belgrade, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner L.D. Mallory at Marseille, Consuls John Randolph at Bucharest and Walter S. Reineck at Antwerp, Vice Consuls Maurice Pasquet at Paris, Camden L. McLain at Santiago and Percy G. Kemp at Tananarive. Prices of otenashis at Hokodati are as reported to the Department of Commerce by Trade Commissioner Paul Steintorf.

Production of dry edible beans a/ in bags of 100 pounds, United States and specified foreign countries, average 1925-26 to 1929-30, annual 1929-30 to 1931-32

Country and variety	Average 1925-26 to 1929-30 b/	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32 preliminary
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
United States -				
White:				
Pea	3,530	3,305	2,824	3,709
Small white	330	416	485	439
Large white	197	79	65	65
Marrow	124	131	159	273
Great northern	1,211	1,744	2,066	2,006
White kidney	55	42	38	117
Total white beans	5,447	5,717	5,637	6,609
Colored:				
Red and dark red kidney c/	635	418	334	586
Pinto	1,601	2,305	3,024	1,499
Pink	615	644	666	567
Small red	230	395	541	518
Cranberry	96	107	123	127
Black eye	446	515	887	462
Yellow eye	116	104	77	140
Total colored beans	3,739	4,488	5,652	3,899
Lima:				
Standard	954	987	1,102	1,064
Baby	419	486	696	663
Total lima beans	1,373	1,473	1,798	1,727
Others	410	562	672	470
Total United States	b/ 10,969	12,240	13,759	12,705
Canada, mostly pea beans	763	895	863	761
Mexico, mostly colored, excl. from total	3,864	2,094	1,774	d/
Rumania, mostly white	4,630	5,711	4,476	6,866
Bulgaria, " "	888	1,121	1,724	e/ (2,200)
Hungary, " "	1,025	1,023	1,017	e/ (700)
Yugoslavia " "	1,793	2,068	3,352	e/ (1,500)
England and Wales	3,179	2,462	3,118	2,691
France	2,405	2,249	2,581	f/ 2,598
Italy, white beans, red kidneys, and cranberries, etc.	2,875	3,468	3,490	2,271
Spain, excl. from total	3,277	3,438	3,631	
Germany	g/ 308	272	254	
Greece, excl. from total	140	109	128	240
Japan, Hokkaido:				
Large and small white	380	727	1,267	506
Long cranberry (speckled)	284	346	491	189
Other varieties	1,005	1,083	1,168	799
Chile, excl. from total	1,434	1,782	1,489	h/
Madagascar, lima	339	380	i/ (233)	308
Total above countries	30,843	34,045	37,793	34,334

Continued -

Production of dry edible beans a/ in bags of 100 pounds, United States and specified foreign countries, average 1925-26 to 1929-30, annual 1929-30 to 1931-32 - Continued

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Division of Statistical and Historical Research. Figures for the United States are compiled from reports of the Crop Reporting Board. Figures for foreign countries are from official sources except as otherwise noted.

a/ Excluding soy, mung, adzuki, broad and horse beans and similar classes not commonly used as edible beans in the United States, including common beans, limas and blackeyes.
b/ United States figures subject to revision when adjustments are made in estimates in line with the 1930 census information.
c/ Includes 69,000 bags of dark red kidneys in Michigan in 1930 and 104,000 in 1931.
d/ There is no evidence of a shortage for the country as a whole, although a few minor producing regions report a short crop.
e/ Unofficial estimate.
f/ Quality is reported to be poor.
g/ 3-year average.
h/ Acreage reported is 5 per cent greater than in the preceding year.
i/ Unofficial commercial estimates place the production of first or London quality at about 220,000 bags for 1931 and total commercial crop at 287,000 bags compared with probable exports plus carry-over of about 233,000 bags from the 1930 crop.

Supplies

Total production of edible beans in the United States and 12 foreign countries, according to latest reports, is about 34,334,000 bags compared with the large crop of 37,793,000 bags in 1930, 34,045,000 in 1929 and an average of 30,843,000 in the five years, 1925-1929. The present harvest is thus above average and the supply is undoubtedly considerably augmented by heavy stocks from the large 1930 harvest.

United States

The total car-lot shipments of beans reported from points of origin for the five months, September-January, were only 9,571 cars compared with 12,514 cars in that period of 1930-31, 11,794 in 1929-30 and 11,010 in 1928-29. These figures cannot be translated accurately into bag equivalents due to wide variations in the quantities contained in a car. At 400 to 600 bags per car the reported car-lot shipments would be 3,828,000 to 5,743,000 bags compared with 5,006,000 to 7,508,000 last year and 4,718,000 to 7,076,000 in 1929-30. Without definite figures on carry-over at the beginning of the season and figures on shipments in less than car-load lots and by truck, no very clear picture can be obtained as to the balance in farmers' hands or at points of origin. The rail shipments in smaller than car-load lots and shipments by truck are reported to be increasing in recent years. Stocks held by wholesale grocers and at similar points near the consumers are believed to be comparatively small as a result of hand-to-mouth purchasing.

In California, reports of warehouse stocks give definite information on the present supplies. In that State, total warehouse stocks on February 1 equaled 2,074,000 bags compared with 1,853,000 bags on that day in 1931, which were the heaviest February 1 stocks reported in the past seven years at least. The average for February 1 in the five years 1926 to 1930 was only 1,252,000 bags. The heaviest stocks were in limas and baby limas. Lima stocks on February 1, 1932 equaled 504,000 bags compared with 390,000 in 1931, and an average of 377,000 bags. Lima stocks in 1932 were notthe largest reported, however, being exceeded by the 579,000 in store on February 1, 1927. Baby lima stocks in 1932 were 442,000 bags compared with 337,000 in 1931 and a 5-year average of 140,000 bags. Small whites at 290,000 bags were somewhat in excess of the heavy 1931 stock of 238,000 bags and well above the average of 141,000 bags. February 1 stocks of pinks, pintos, small reds and black eyes were all smaller in 1932 than in 1931. Stocks of cranberries, red kidneys and bayos were all nearly or more than twice as large as in 1931, but these classes are all small in quantity compared with the limas, small whites, pinks and black eyes.

Car-lot shipments a/ of dry beans from points of origin, by States, 1928-29 to 1931-32

State	Year beginning Sept. 1			Sept. 1 to Jan. 31			
	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32 prel. b/
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Mich.	6,383	5,616	5,046	4,202	3,075	2,979	3,243
N.Y.	889	1,056	961	610	653	648	921
Idaho	1,973	2,516	2,671	1,485	1,653	1,758	1,496
Mont.	566	733	647	525	525	542	250
Wyo.	347	577	785	330	508	660	374
Colo.	1,732	2,347	4,312	1,246	1,581	3,293	1,163
N. Mex.	555	1,750	624	419	1,171	439	570
Calif.	2,961	3,588	2,850	2,108	2,494	1,958	1,404
Others	122	239	357	85	134	237	150
Total cars	15,528	18,422	18,253	11,010	11,794	12,514	9,571
Range of equivalent in bags c/	1,000 bags 6211-9317	1,000 bags 7369-11053	1,000 bags 7301-10952	1,000 bags 4404-6606	1,000 bags 4718-7076	1,000 bags 5006-7508	1,000 bags 3828-574

Compiled from reports of Hay, Feed and Seed Division.

a/ Do not include shipments by truck which have not had a subsequent rail haul.

b/ In addition to car-lot shipments reported, 183,862 bags were shipped by water during the current season, September 1, 1931 to January 31, 1932. Comparable figures for previous seasons are not available.

c/ Car-lots contain varying quantities of beans ranging from about 400 to 600 bags of 100 pounds. There is a tendency for a larger carload to be used in the West than in the East, but there is considerable variation in both West and East.

Stocks of dry beans in California warehouses on February 1, 1932

Date and variety	Average 1929 - 1932	1929	1930	1931	1932
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
Large white	12,398	4,013	9,824	17,378	19,135
Small white	140,633	154,688	180,098	238,472	289,816
Pink	265,798	184,388	232,824	271,561	237,797
Pinto	11,830	16,025	28,433	59,617	36,554
Cranberry	23,671	14,413	26,487	31,617	57,231
Small red	75,588	65,787	35,553	47,964	10,334
Kidney, red	18,698	16,540	19,867	31,101	86,274
Bayo	8,386	4,690	3,986	7,813	14,178
Regular lima	376,923	207,749	290,049	389,681	503,674
Baby lima	139,816	93,445	131,640	337,280	441,568
Black eye	165,966	80,568	116,678	419,053	374,448
Garbanzo	2,749	921	1,681	606	59
Miscellaneous	8,400	2,407	7,200	866	3,285
Total	1,252,054	845,634	1,086,320	1,853,009	2,074,353

Figures as reported by California Bean Dealers' Association.

Foreign

Supplies of foreign beans appear to be fairly heavy in spite of some reduction in production. Large carry-overs increased the supply in some countries. It seems probable, however, that supplies are smaller than a year ago. Increased takings by some importing countries have helped to reduce the large supplies of the exporting nations but information available indicates that stocks are still large in Rumania and as large as last year or larger in Chile. They appear to be large in Japan but considerably smaller than the unusually heavy supply a year ago.

Europe

The new official estimate of the Rumanian crop, 6,866,000 bags, is larger than earlier indications and is the largest harvest reported since 1924. The 1930 crop of 4,476,000 bags was slightly below average. Exports have been heavy but unless domestic consumption has been heavier than normal there is probably still a considerably larger balance available for export than in any recent year. No official estimates of production have been received for the other Danubian countries which are also surplus producing countries. Early indications based on acreage and condition reports and opinion of the trade place the total harvest for Bulgaria, Hungary, and Yugoslavia at 4,400,000 bags compared with the unusually large crop of 6,093,000 bags in those countries in 1930 and an average of 3,706,000 in the years 1925-1929.

Three important European producing countries which are usually importing countries are England, France, and Italy. Of these three Italy and England have had material reductions in bean production in 1931. Italy suffered a drastic reduction to 2,271,000 bags as compared with 3,490,000 bags in 1930 and a 5-year average of 2,875,000 bags. Italy usually imports large quantities of beans, probably mostly white beans, from the Danube countries and exports smaller quantities including red kidneys and some cranberries. This year there has been little indication of exports from Italy, and the small crop there has tended to stimulate increased imports. Production in England and Wales in 1931 is reported at 2,691,000 bags compared with 3,118,000 bags in 1930 and an average of 3,179,000 bags in the period 1925-1929. In France the 1931 harvest is placed at 2,598,000 bags, slightly above the 1930 harvest and above the 5-year average of 2,405,000 bags. No recent information is available on the quality of the French crop but early reports commented on the poor quality which would reduce the merchantable supply well below the estimate for total crop.

Stocks of beans in dealers' hands at Marseille are estimated at roughly 70,000 bags about the first of February compared with 110,000 bags a month earlier. The reduction was due partly to a falling off in receipts.

At Antwerp, a second important concentration point for bean shipments, stocks in first, second, and pickers' hands were estimated at 55,000 bags the first of February. Comparable figures are not available for earlier months.

Japan

Stocks of the bean varieties in Japan which compete with United States beans appear to be fairly heavy although probably not so large as a year ago. The carry-over of tenashis and nagauzuras (large and small whites and long cranberries) was heavy, and added to new crop production brought total supplies the first of the season larger than in most recent years, but smaller than the unusually heavy supply following the large crop a year ago. Exports through November were smaller than a year ago.

Madagascar

The Madagascar crop of lima beans is estimated by the Government at between 270,000 and 345,000 bags. No official figure is available for 1930 for comparison. This estimate is below the 1929 harvest but not far from the average for the years 1925-1929. Commercial estimates place the 1931 crop at about 220,000 bags of first or London quality or approximately 287,000 bags unpicked beans. The quality is reported to be good. Commercial estimates of commercial crop in 1930, based on export figures and stocks, place it at about 235,000 bags of which only a negligible amount, about 4,000 to 7,000 bags, was carried over. Exports were estimated at about 228,000 bags but it was not stated whether they were exports to Europe representing London quality, or whether they included exports to Reunion and other nearby places which include poorer quality beans. Thus it is not certain whether commercial circles estimate the 1931 crop larger or smaller than that of 1930.

Chile

In Chile information available indicates a probable stock of old crop beans as large as the small stock a year earlier in spite of a reduction in crop. Exports in 1931 were much smaller than in 1930 so that unless domestic consumption was heavy there should be a balance for carry-over equal to that a year ago.

The new crop is usually harvested between the middle of January and the end of February and should now be starting to appear on the market. Present prospects are for an increase in crop over the harvest a year ago. Acreage of beans sown in Chile in 1931 for the harvest in the early months of 1932 amounts to 172,787 acres, an increase of about 5 per cent over the acreage the preceding year. Climatic conditions through January were favorable on the whole. There was then some prospect that the legume crop in general, including beans, peas, and lentils, would be the best grown in the country for several years. Yields in Chile the past six years have ranged from 9.0 to 10.5 bags to the acre, and averaged 9.7 bags. A yield of 9.7 to 10.5 bags on the present acreage would give a harvest of 1,675,000 to 1,815,000 bags, a substantial increase over the 1,489,000 bags produced a year ago.

This year for the first time an official estimate has been made of acreage by varieties in Chile, which throws light on the amount of competition which United States beans may meet from imports of corresponding varieties from Chile. It has been known that many varieties grown in the United States are also grown in Chile and that when prices are high enough significant quantities are exported from that country. But before 1928-29 no indication was available as to the distribution of the Chilean crop among the varieties or how much of any given variety Chile could export if conditions were favorable. Acreage reported for 1931-32 gives more complete information on the varieties grown in Chile.

Of the 172,787 acres sown in Chile in the 1931-32 crop year 83,910 acres are devoted to varieties grown largely for export, and of which the United States takes larger or smaller quantities. About three-fourths of the area sown to export varieties is devoted to cranberry beans, about one-eighth is to pea beans, and the balance is fairly evenly divided between red kidneys and different classifications of marrows. A small acreage of small reds has also been planted. There is some indication of a reduction in red kidney production below that of 1928-29. The 5,743 acres sown to that variety even with a yield of 10.5 bags to the acre would give only about 60,000 bags compared with 113,000 bags in 1928-29. Similar indications suggest a much larger probable production of cranberries and long cranberries than in 1928-29. The calendar year 1929, during which the Chilean 1928-29 crop was being marketed, was one of the two years of heaviest United States imports of Chilean beans in the past ten years. Our takings that year reached 184,644 bags of 100 pounds compared with 185,245 bags the preceding year, and a 10-year average of about 74,000 bags. Our imports from Chile in 1931 of 61,576 bags, were slightly below the average.

Chile: Bean production by varieties; 1928-29, acreage, total 1929-30 and 1930-31, by varieties, 1931-32

Variety	Production	Acreage		
	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32
	1,000 bags	Acres	Acres	Acres
Varieties from which exports to U. S. are made				
Colored				
Araucanos (speckled cranberry)	199			43,324
Frutillo (large cranberry).....	65			18,102
Red kidney	113			5,743
Red Mexican (small red)........	a/			618
White				
Arroz (rice or small pea)......	a/			7,717
Triguito (large pea)	a/			2,333
Milagro cristale	a/			4,467
Milagro (marrow)	80			267
Caballare (long marrow)	64			1,339
Varieties grown largely for domestic consumption				
Burrito (small brown bean).....	301			37,690
Bayo	320			23,544
Pallare (somewhat similar to Madagascar bean sold in Europe as butter bean).......	a/			2,365
Other				
Coscorrone (white mottled with green)......................	54			5,980
Undesignated	b/ 464			19,298
Total	1,660	164,314	164,375	172,787

Compiled from reports of Vice Consuls Camden L. McLain at Santiago and John T. Garvin at Valparaiso, and Clerk Don J. Berry at Valparaiso Quoting Chilean official reports.

a/ Included with undesignated varieties.

b/ Includes production of named varieties for which separate figures are not available.

International Trade

United States

United States foreign trade in beans has been light in the first five months of the current marketing season, September through January. Imports of foreign beans were only 63,000 bags compared with 419,000 in the corresponding season of 1930-31 and 703,000 in that period of 1929-30. Reexports of foreign beans have been slightly heavier than last year leaving a balance of only 7,000 bags retained in this country for consumption compared with 375,000 in the corresponding period in 1930-31 and 593,000 in 1929-30.

Exports of domestic beans have also been light the first five months this season, amounting to 40,000 bags compared with 81,000 bags in the same five months of 1930-31 and 108,000 in that period of 1929-30. The net movement of beans so far this season has been a net export of 33,000 bags compared with a net import of 294,000 bags in the same period of 1930-31 and a net import of 485,000 in 1929-30.

Japan and Chile have been the most important sources of our imports, supplying nearly half of the 63,000 bags imported this season. There is some indication that the few foreign beans retained for domestic consumption so far this season have been mostly of the colored varieties. No definite information is available, however, as to just what varieties are brought in. Some red kidneys are known to have been imported from Chile, some nagauzuras from Japan and a few pea beans from Canada.

North and Central America have taken nearly all of the exports this season as usual. Cuba was the most important single purchaser so far this season, taking 11,000 bags compared with over 21,000 bags in the same period last season. Cuban takings have been small in December and January.

From Mexico we have imported 3,091 bags more so far this season than we have exported, whereas last year, following a short crop in that country, we exported 21,723 bags more than we imported. This year's imports may have been for reexportation. Nicaragua has taken 7,500 bags of United States beans this season, compared with 5,200 in the same period a year earlier.

Dry Beans: Imports into the United States by country of origin and exports, annual 1924-25 to 1930-31, September-January 1929-30 to 1931-32
(In bags of 100 pounds)

Country and movement	Year beginning Sept. 1							Sept.- Jan.		
	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Imports										
EUROPE										
France	85	124	166	201	16	45	36	37	33	1
Belgium	18	29	67	202	22	22	10	13	10	0
Italy	106	152	152	62	22	74	37	57	31	4
Netherlands	22	28	23	35	14	23	11	15	11	4
Germany	25	55	41	127	22	94	21	59	21	a/
Hungary	8	4	13	26	1	102	17	99	17	0
Austria	2	11	6	11	1	13	a/	13	a/	0
Czechoslovakia	9	1	4	9	1	4	1	1	1	0
Rumania	4	5	0	1	4	15	3	11	3	0
Poland	1	1	6	7	0	10	4	7	2	0
Total above Continental European countries	280	410	478	681	103	402	140	312	129	9
United Kingdom	52	4	2	29	41	66	1	4	1	a/
ASIA										
Japan	339	210	221	383	290	601	481	261	230	14
Hongkong	20	24	23	20	23	23	22	8	7	13
China	7	6	8	7	11	8	5	3	2	a/
Kwantung	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	0	1
NORTH AMERICA										
Canada	21	36	8	88	25	128	9	70	2	1
Mexico	11	5	8	65	41	b/16	13	10	8	7
Dominican Republic	0	0	2	4	10	20	12	3	a/	a/
Cuba	1	1	1	1	1	b/10	13	a/	4	1
SOUTH AMERICA										
Chile	55	2	26	182	188	140	76	23	27	13
Argentina	15	6	2	11	6	7	11	4	7	3
Peru	1	0	0	1	9	2	a/	a/	a/	0
AFRICA										
Madagascar	54	2	0	0	26	22	0	0	0	0
Other countries	7	10	16	9	8	12	4	4	2	1
Total imports	864	716	796	1,483	782	1,459	787	703	419	63
RE-EXPORTS	176	187	194	158	191	154	105	110	44	56
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	294	347	334	242	196	170	174	108	81	40
NET IMPORTS	394	182	268	1,083	395	1,135	508	485	294	c/33
Blackeye imports										
Cuba	d/	d/	d/	d/	d/	e/ 4	15	d/	14	0
Mexico	d/	d/	d/	d/	d/	e/ 2	1	d/	1	1

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. Compiled from records of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

a/ Less than 500 bags. b/ Exclude blackeye since June 18, 1930. c/ Net exports. d/ Included in imports of other dry beans. e/ June 18 to August 31, 1930, only. Earlier figures included with other beans.

Europe

Exports of beans from Rumania appear to have been unusually heavy the first four months of the 1931-32 marketing season. Total exports from September through December 1931 are estimated at 1,386,000 bags according to the National Export Institute, which is higher than official reports of exports in the corresponding periods in any of the past seven years, and more than double the 591,000 bags exported in those four months of 1930. Exports fell off seasonally in December with the partial closing of the Danube and winter interior transportation difficulties to 189,000 bags, but were higher than in any of the four preceding Decembers. In December 1930 only 61,000 bags had been exported. It seems probable that a larger proportion than usual of the exports have been going to Italy this season. Italy usually imports some Rumanian beans and a reduction of 1,219,000 bags in Italian production below last year and 877,000 below average should result in an increased demand for Rumanian beans this season. Large quantities have also been going indirectly to Germany.

Imports to Italy in the first two months of the current season were heavy, reaching 576,000 bags compared with only 114,000 in those months a year ago. Exports were light.

Total imports into Belgium including some broad beans, for the four months September-December were reported at 368,000 bags for 1931 compared with only 46,000 bags for 1930, coming almost entirely from Rumania. Exports for the same period equalled 177,000 bags in 1931 compared with 27,000 in 1930. Germany was the principal purchaser.

The United Kingdom, with a somewhat reduced production, reports an importation of 581,000 bags the first four months of the season compared with only 290,000 in that period a year ago.

Japan

Exports from Japan fell off materially the first three months of the season, total exports amounting to only 60,000 bags, including an important percentage of old crop beans, compared with 229,000 bags in that period of 1930, and 348,000 in 1929. The export season in Japan does not start until about November.

Chile

Exports from Chile in the three months September through November, 1931, were only 76,000 bags compared with 106,000 in that period of 1930.

Foreign trade in dry beans for specified countries, stated periods, 1929-30 to 1931-32

Country and movement	Period	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32
		1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
U.S. net imports ...	Sept.-Jan.	485	294	a/ - 33
Japan, exports	Sept.-Nov.	348	229	60
Rumania, exports....	Sept.-Dec.	929	591	b/ 1,386
Chile, exports	Sept.-Nov.	125	106	76
Italy,				
Imports..........	Sept.-Nov.	261	114	576
Exports..........	Sept.-Nov.	35	41	11
Belgium,				
Imports c/.......	Sept.-Dec.	61	46	368
Exports d/.......	Sept.-Dec.	14	27	177
United Kingdom,				
Imports for consumption........	Sept.-Dec.	879	290	581
Reexports	Sept.-Dec.	19	3	6

Compiled from official reports of the countries reporting. Figures for Rumania are official figures reported by the Consular Service.
a/ Net export.
b/ Estimate of National Export Institute.
c/ Mostly from Rumania. Includes some broad beans.
d/ Mostly to Germany. Includes some broad beans.

Prices

Prices of practically all classes of beans have continued to fall during the past three months. During February, however, prices of pea beans and white kidneys at New York, great northerns at Twin Falls and Chicago, and small reds and baby limas in California have been practically stationary. Prices of domestic white beans have been low enough since early in October, so there has been practically no competition from foreign beans and prices of foreign varieties in New York were not quoted "duty paid." Prices of colored beans, on the other hand, were high enough until the latter part of January to attract foreign cranberries. Thereafter foreign cranberries ceased to be quoted on the "duty paid" basis.

In February at New York prices of domestic pea beans, great northerns, marrows and red kidneys were all averaging less than the amount of the import duty of $3.00 per 100 pounds. There is thus room for a material increase in the domestic price of these classes without bringing about effective competition from foreign beans. Domestic cranberries were selling at $1.82 to $1.95 per bag above the import duty at New York in February, whereas long cranberry beans from Japan were quoted at $1.70 in bond and those from Chile at $1.62 in bond. Any material increase in the price of this class might thus stimulate the importation of foreign cranberries.

In California prices of large and small whites, baby limas, small reds, and blackeyes were all averaging less than the amount of the import duty in February and pinks only just above the amount of the import duty. These low prices would tend to discourage imports of competing varieties for use on the Pacific Coast or the interior, although shipping costs to New York might be high enough to permit some competition in that market. Choice pinks were selling in New York on Februery 26 at $4.25 to $4.50 a bag.

The farm price of pintos in Colorado rose 25 cents between mid-January and mid-February to $1.75 a bag. Prices at Denver, on the other hand, fell from $1.95 in mid-January to $1.75 the latter part of February.

Lima prices have been falling steadily and by February 27 were down to $4.42 per bag at New York and on February 20 to $3.65 f.o.b. cars in southern California. There appears to be little or no competition with Madagascar limas in domestic markets. Madagascar lima prices have not been quoted regularly in New York for nearly a year. About the first of December limas were being bought by exporters in Madagascar at the equivalent of $2.04 to $2.22, presumably for London quality beans. There is an export tax on lima beans which for the months September to December, 1931, amounted to 9 cents per 100 pounds, London quality. Domestic limas were selling at New York the first of December at $5.75. After making allowance for shipping costs between Madagascar and the United States there would be little margin for profits and little incentive to ship to this country. Later reductions in domestic lima prices would minimize the incentive still further.

Prices of all classes of beans which have been grown on a commercial scale for a long period of time are now down to, or below, the level prevailing in the years just before the war. The average farm price for the United States as a whole has fallen from $2.58 per 100 pounds September 15, 1931 to $2.06 February 15, 1932. The lowest price recorded before that time since the beginning of the record, January, 1910, was $3.52 on August 15, 1912. Pea bean prices at Boston are on record since January, 1901. The January, 1932, average price of $3.19 per 100 pounds was the lowest since the year 1906-07 when the average for the year went down to $2.68 per 100 pounds. Small whites f.o.b. California rail points averaged $2.50 per 100 pounds on February 20, 1932, the lowest since July, 1902.

The California f.o.b. price of red kidneys of $3.25 per 100 pounds on February 20, was lower than any mid-month price reported there since September, 1909, when it went down to $3.10, with a possible exception of the period December, 1913, to February, 1918, when those prices were not recorded. The California February 20 price of cranberries, averaging $3.72 per 100 pounds, was the lowest since September, 1911, when it went down to $3.38; the price of pinks, at $3.05, was the lowest since May and June, 1912, when it went down to $3.00; the price of blackeyes at $2.25 was the lowest since 1903-04 when it averaged $2.23 for the year; the lima price at $3.65 was the lowest since February and March, 1909, when it went down to $3.40 to $3.45.

Prices in important foreign markets have been falling through January. February figures have not yet been received. Prices seem to be well maintained in comparison with United States prices. Pearl beans, which compete with pea beans, were selling f.o.b. Antwerp for early delivery at $1.74 per hundred pounds in January compared with a New York price of European pea beans in bond of $1.12. Hand-picked Moldavian beans at Marseille were selling at $1.79 in that same month. Unsorted common Danubian beans were much lower.

Market Tendencies

The market for all classes of beans has been slow both in the United States and in most foreign countries. In this country generally there has been little active demand reported in spite of the unusually low prices. In Chicago, however, by February 23 the demand was reported to be good with supplies not large. The light consumer demand this season is attributed by some to the present low prices of other foods, which in times of high prices are considered more in the luxury class and to plentiful supplies of home grown/and home canned vegetables. The mild winter is cited as a further contributing cause.

Little business was reported by the trade at Marseille in January, with a lack of buyers. While reports from dealers were pessimistic, calculations based on receipts and estimated stocks indicate a fairly heavy movement from dealers' hands and a moderate quantity of sales. Export trade at Marseille continued lacking in January and purchases for French consumption were light. Little activity was reported at Paris.

At Antwerp, also, domestic consumption in January was reported to be lighter than usual for that time of year, the mild weather being considered an important factor in the lack of demand.

Offers from Rumania and Bulgaria are limited, partly as a result of the closing of the Danube and partly because of the difficulty of marketing beans in those countries due to poor winter transportation. Producers in those countries are also said to be tending to hold their beans for higher prices, selling only when forced to do so.

In Chile the export market for beans has been affected by the export premium levied by the Government. A law was passed early in 1931 granting an export bounty on exports of beans, the bounties to be paid by the Agricultural Export Council, but apparently whatever money was collected to finance it failed to reach the Council. Consequently, in order to continue in business, exporters had to advance the amount of the bounties and accept the I.O.U's which the Treasury had not yet cancelled early in January of 1932. The circumstance has caused serious difficulty especially to Chilean exporting firms of small capital, and may affect the exportation in 1932. The rates of the bounties for 1932 had not yet been fixed early in January. The bounty for 1931 amounted to approximately 60 cents per 100 pounds for bayos, araucanos (cranberries), frutillas (large cranberries), small reds and arroz (pea beans). The premium for milagros (marrows) was equivalent to about 82 cents per 100 pound. No premium was granted for triguitos (large pea beans) or red kidneys.

Prices of specified varieties of beans per 100 pounds, in United States markets, 1930-31 and 1931-32

WHITE BEANS AND LIMAS

Year and month	New York price from receivers to wholesale distributors: Pea, Domestic	Pea, Europe	Great Northern	Otenashi Japan	Kotenashi Japan	Med. Marrow domestic a/	Lima, regular Calif.	Chicago to local trade l.c.l.: Great Northern	San Francisco f.o.b. rail Calif.: Small white	Baby lima
	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.
1930-31 av.	5.51	b/5.40	b/4.56	b/ 5.25	c/ 5.03	5.60	7.90	5.04	4.70	4.96
1931-32										
Sept.	4.21	4.11	3.72	4.60	4.58	3.88	6.08	d/ 4.81	3.56	3.78
Oct.	3.61	e/(1.38)	3.30	4.60	e/(1.60)	3.67	5.78	3.49	2.98	3.22
Nov.	3.66	e/(1.43)	3.36	4.46	e/(1.60)	4.12	5.88	3.36	3.38	3.58
Dec.	3.01	e/(1.20)	3.01	e/(1.76)	e/(1.48)	3.95	5.50	3.44	3.12	3.10
Jan.	2.82	e/(1.12)	2.82	e/(1.52)	e/(1.34)	3.95	5.10	3.50	2.92	2.88
Feb.										
6	2.75	e/(1.12)	2.80	e/(1.38)	e/(1.30)	3.00	4.80	3.38	2.58	2.40
13	2.75	e/(1.12)	2.80	e/(1.38)	e/(1.30)	2.92	4.50	-	2.58	2.40
20	2.75	e/(1.12)	2.62	e/(1.38)	e/(1.30)	2.88	4.42	3.38	2.50	2.40
27	2.75	e/(1.12)	2.62	e/(1.38)	e/(1.30)	2.88	4.42			

COLORED BEANS

Year and month	New York prices from receivers to wholesale distributors: Red kidney, Domestic	Red kidney, Italy	Cranberry, Round domestic	Cranberry, Nagauzura Japan	Cranberry, Frutilla Chile	Chicago to local trade l.c.l.	Colorado price to producers	San Francisco, f.o.b. rail, Calif.: Small red	Cranberry	Pink	Black eye
						Pinto	(Pinto)				
	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.
1930-31 av.	8.87	f/7.66	f/6.24	5.91	5.46	f/4.34	2.26	3.05	5.62	3.90	3.39
1931-32											
Sept.	g/4.88	4.68	6.67	5.04	4.74	3.28	1.50	2.58	5.38	2.82	3.22
Oct.	4.46	3.62	6.54	5.02	4.69	3.17	1.30	2.45	4.40	2.75	3.10
Nov.	4.61		6.18	5.23	4.76	3.57	1.95	3.50	4.60	3.48	3.52
Dec.	3.89		5.33	4.38	4.54	3.62	1.50	3.50	4.68	4.00	3.05
Jan.	3.38		5.07	4.58	4.38	3.62	1.45	3.32	4.45	3.58	2.90
Feb.											
6	3.08		4.95	e/(1.70)	c/(1.62)	3.50	-	3.05	3.92	3.22	2.45
13	2.85		4.82	e/(1.70)	e/(1.62)	-	h/ 1.70	2.95	3.75	3.15	2.32
20	2.75		4.82	e/(1.70)	e/(1.62)	3.50		2.95	3.72	3.05	2.25
27	2.75		4.62	e/(1.62)	e/(1.25)						

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. New York prices are averages of daily prices taken from the New York Producers' Price Current, Chicago prices are averages of daily prices from the Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin. The prices of small whites are averages of daily prices taken from the San Francisco Commercial News. Other San Francisco prices are one price a month for the Saturday nearest the 15th of the month taken from the California Fruit News. The Colorado price to producers is as reported by Crop Estimates Division for the 15th of the month. a/ Beginning September 24, 1931 this variety is listed as "Marrow", not "Medium Marrow". b/ Ten month average c/ Nine Month average. d/ Michigan beans. e/ In bond. Any beans taken out of bond for domestic consumption would require the payment of $3.00 duty per 100 pounds in addition to the price quoted. f/ Eight month average. g/ No quotation until September 29. h/ The average price at Denver fell from $1.95 per 100 pounds January 13 to $1.75 February

Prices of dry beans in foreign markets per 100 pounds, 1930-31 and 1931-32

Year and month	Antwerp, for early delivery, f.o.b. Pearl	Antwerp Medium marrow	Antwerp Small flat	Antwerp Large flat	Antwerp Ote-nashi	Marseille, c.i.f. Moldavian hand picked a/ duty paid into France	Marseille, c.i.f. Danubian common a/	Galatz Common b/	Hokodati Otenashi
	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.
1930-31									
Average c/	2.98	3.05	2.45	3.07	d/2.22	-	d/1.67	1.42	1.33
1931-32									
Sept.	2.05	2.57	1.64	2.28	1.72	-	1.02	.75	.78
Oct.	1.85	2.18	1.57	2.46	1.73	1.89	1.03	.80	e/1.10
Nov.	1.91	2.27	1.57	2.54	1.90	1.88	1.08	.80	-
Dec.	1.78	2.20	1.46	2.20	1.80	1.79	.96	.70	-
Jan.	1.74	1.94	1.42	2.04	1.85	f/ 1.79	.97	-	-

Division of Statistical and Historical Research.

Compiled from reports of the Consular Service at the markets listed and Department of Commerce reports of prices at Hokodati, Japan. Marseille prices from September through January 1931-32 are furnished by the association of Sworn Brokers.

a/ On the basis of 6 per cent tolerance foreign matter and colored beans, in bulk, either afloat or for immediate shipment.

b/ In car-lots at storehouses or railway stations or port line..

c/ Nine months average.

d/ Ten months average.

e/ At Otaru as reported by United States Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson.

f/ This class and Braila hand picked were being sold to some extent below the published quotations, the sellers accepting a loss.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

B-7 June 17,1932

WORLD DRY BEAN PROSPECTS 1/

Summary

Early reports indicate probable smaller bean crops in Chile and Rumania. Bean harvesting conditions are reported as somewhat unfavorable in Chile, with trade indications of a probable reduced production. In Rumania floods and cold weather in April, the bean seeding season, have delayed farm seeding generally and the local opinion there is that the delay has resulted in a reduction in bean acreage. Both Rumania and Chile are surplus bean producing countries, usually exporting beans to the United States, and conditions operating to reduce their surpluses tend to relieve the pressure of foreign beans in United States markets.

In Chile the prices of most varieties of beans in March, April and May this year were noticeably higher than a year earlier, but a drastic decline in the exchange rate in May makes the recent prices in American currency much lower than a year ago, and may tend to stimulate exports. Prices of cranberry beans, in terms of United States currency, fell from $3.56 per 100 pounds April 15 to $1.63 May 24, small reds from $2.35 to $1.09, small pea beans from $2.63 to $1.36 and red kidneys from $2.74 to $1.22. The high peso prices of beans in recent months are attributed to difficulty experienced by importers in obtaining foreign exchange with which to purchase rice and other commodities from abroad, but prospects of a reduced crop may also be a factor.

1/ Statements on foreign beans other than those derived from official publications of the various countries are based on reports from Agricultural Attache' L. G. Michael at Belgrade, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner L.D.Mallory at Marseille, Consuls Alfred W. Donegan at Bucharest, and William H. Beach at Antwerp, and Vice Consuls L. J. Keena at Paris and Camden L. McLain at Santigao.

United States bean prices, with a few exceptions, have remained about steady for the past month. At New York wholesale average prices of cranberry beans have been falling from an average of $4.47 per 100 pounds in March to $3.68 June 8. California limas at New York which had averaged $4.26 in March and April rose to $4.42 by May 19 which price has been maintained since that time. Great northerns rose from an average of $2.53 in April to $2.63 in May and $2.65 by June 8. Pea beans fell from an average of $2.65 in March to $2.56 in April, returning to $2.65 in May and averaging $2.62 on June 8. Marrows rose from $2.88 in March and April to $2.99 in May but fell to $2.95 June 8. Red kidneys fell from $2.46 in March to $2.23 in April rising to $2.38 in May which price obtained June 8. Car-lot prices to wholesalers for great northerns at Billings and Twin Falls rose somewhat in May and early June. Prices of pea beans at Rochester, New York, and in Michigan, small whites and small reds at San Francisco, and red kidneys at Rochester have either remained stationary or fluctuated within fairly narrow margins since the first of April. Pinto prices at Denver have fluctuated only slightly but with a downward tendency from $1.65 April 6 to $1.58 June 8.

Reported car-lot shipments of beans from producing regions declined seasonally in April, when preliminary estimates of shipments reached 1,021 cars compared with 838 cars the preceding April. Whereas shipments early in the season had been smaller than a year earlier, the shipments in February, March and April have been heavier than the preceding year. Total reported shipments from September through April reached 13,101 cars compared with 15,516 in that period of 1930-31.

Stocks of beans in California warehouses were 1,397,000 bags on May 1, a decrease of 171,000 bags from stocks a month earlier. This is a greater reduction than usual during April, which averaged 154,000 bags for the five years 1927 to 1931. Producers in California are reported to be holding their beans for better prices and the decrease in stocks may be the result of lack of receipts rather than an increase in movement toward consuming channels.

United States bean imports of 5,590 bags in April were less than re-exports of foreign beans, and domestic exports reached 6,060 bags making a net export movement for the month of 8,430 bags. The total movement for the nine months September - April was a net export of 46,000 bags compared with a net import of 435,000 bags in that period in 1930-31.

Stocks of beans at Marseille were declining seasonally up to the first of June and trade was dull. A good demand was reported at Paris during April. In Antwerp similar declines in stocks were reported up to May 1.

Stocks of beans available for export in Rumania on May 1 are estimated at about 375,000 bags, obtained by subtracting reported exports and assumed internal consumption from supply on August 1, 1931. It is less than the amount of carry-over reported as of August 1, 1931 which reached about 440,000 bags. This May 1 stocks estimate is based on a revised production estimate, now officially placed at 7,257,000 bags. Production had previously been estimated at 6,866,000 bags. The trade in Rumania estimates stocks at a smaller figure, however, since it claims that the official production figure is too high. Deliveries at both Constantza and Braila were small in April. There was a tendency among both large and small bean producers to hold back surpluses until the prospects for the new crop could be better estimated. The new debt conversion law passed in favor of farmers is said also to have strongly influenced producers to hold back stocks. Stocks are further held for eventual use in obtaining ready credit from banks, which otherwise may not be available when needed.